TOP 25 VIEW
SNEAK PREVIEW Dame 2nd,
SNEAK PREVIEW
John (File) 1st, Notre Dawa 10th
Michigan 5th, lawa 10th

Sporting Name

ISN'S ALL-AMERICA RANKINGS

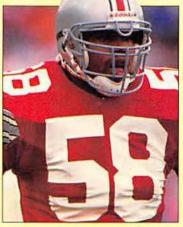
Divisions I-A and I-AA

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

TSN SERIES #2

DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 23, 1992

PRICE: \$4.95 (\$5.95 CAN.)



A Butkus for a Buckeye?

Steve Tovar is out to prove he's the nation's best linebacker

PLUS:

Features

- Michigan's defensive line
- Notre Dame's Jerome Bettis
- ■Penn State's Lou Benfatti
- An exodus of underclassmen
- Youngstown Coach Jim Tressel
- ■More than 35 profiles in all

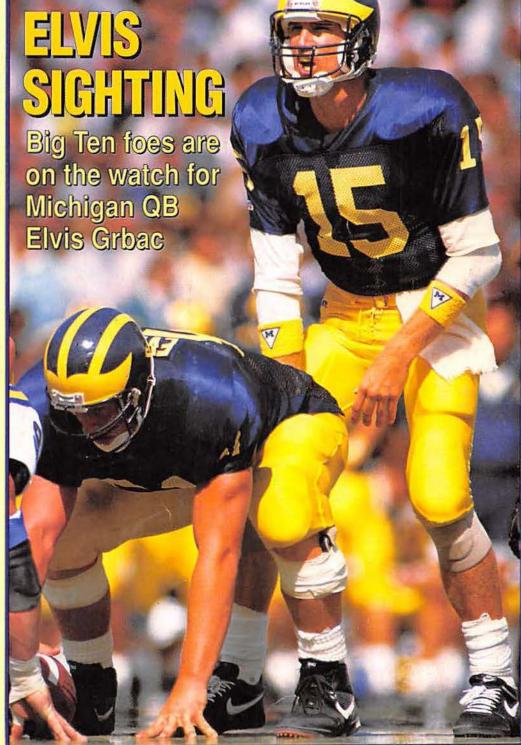
League previews

- ■Predictions
- All-conference picks
- Scouting reports
- Team-by-team reports, charts and schedules

And more . . .

- Statistics
- Unit rankings
- Division I-AA Top 20
- Division II and III data





1992 COLLEGE FOOTBALL YEARBOOK

Controlled Rage
Slow Nebraska
The Grand Marshall
For underclassmen, entering the NFL draft can mean big bucks—or big disappointment
Hat's Off!24 You can call him Gene or maybe even "Bebes," but Alabama's Stallings now answers to "winner," too
Top 25
Scouting the Nation
I-A All-America Rankings 40 Florida's Shane Matthews Notre Dame's Jerome Bettis Wake Forest's John Henry Mills Washington's Lincoln Kennedy Penn State's Lou Benfatti Ohio State's Steve Tovar East Carolina's Greg Grandison Syracuse's Qadry Ismail
Entering the Spotlight 50 As Rice struggles to find its place in athletics, Trevor Cobb is carving out his own niche
Back on the Farm
Glyn Milburn
Land of Ah's
Land of Disenchantment 57 Losing football? This must be New Mexi-

I-A Unit Rankings Pacific's offensive backfield Miami's receivers	136
Texas A&M's offensive line	
Michigan's defensive line	
Colorado's linebackers Washington's defensive backs	
Devastating Losses	144 ootball
I-AA All-America Rankings	145
I-AA Top 20	145
QB on the Run	
Wofford's Shawn Graves, the most p rushing quarterback in NCAA history, to carry the ball	rolific
Division II Data	169
Driven to Achieve	170
The memory of his slain father ins Washington & Jefferson tailback Chris rad	spires
Division III Data	171
Darren Stohlmann	172
Scouts are convinced that the Neb Wesleyan tight end is a future pro player	
General Information	173
Index of Teams	176
CONFERENCE PREVIEW	IS
DIVISION I-A	
Atlantic Coast	
Big East	
Big Eight	
Big Ten Big West	
Mid-American	
Pacific - 10	
Southeastern	
Southwest	
Western Athletic	119
Independents	126

DIVISION I-AA

Big Sky	146
Gateway	148
Ivy League	150
Mid-Eastern Athletic	152
Ohio Valley	154
Patriot League	
Southern	
Southland	160
Southwestern Athletic	
Yankee	
Independents	

Conference previews were written by sportswriters who cover the conferences on a regular basis. Their reports and the charts in this publication were prepared before preseason practices and may not reflect late changes and injuries.

THE SPORTING NEWS Yearbook series is published seven times a year by THE SPORTING NEWS Publishing Company: Baseball in February; College Football in June; Pro Football in July; Hockey in September; Pro Basketball in September; College Basketball in October, and Fantasy Baseball in December.

Color photo contributors

Action Sports of America (47).
Brigham Young University (37).
University of California (31bl.)
Johnathan Daniel/Alisport USA (18b, 30bl, 35tr, 43, 50, 51).
Tim DeFrisco/Alisport USA (10).
Tom DiPace (2, 4, 24 Stallings, 27l; 28ml, 31br, 40, 46, 48).
Stephen Dunn/Alisport USA (11, 20b, 30tl, 35br).
Focus On Sports (31ml).
George Frey (31tr).
Otto Greule Jr./Alisport USA (13, 36r, 44).
Scott Halleran/Alisport USA (28bl, 36l).
Dan Helms/Duomo (24 Bryant).
Mitchell Layton (29mr, 45).
Ken Levine/Alisport USA (30mr, 38l).
David Madison (31tl, 54).
Brian Masck/Alisport USA (12, 32b).
All Messerschmidt (27r).
University of New Mexico (61).
Joe Patronite/Alisport USA (28br, 32t).
Doug Pensinger/Alisport USA (36m).
Bob Rosato (17br, 28mr, 29tl, 29bl, 38r).
Bruce Schwartzman (16bl, 30br).
Rod Searcey (52, 53).
James D. Smith (18t).
Jon Soohoo/Bernstein Assoc. Inc. (28tr).
Allen Dean Steele (14, 29tr).
Damian Strohmeyer/Alisport USA (60).
Ron Vesely (6, 20t, 22, 29ml, 42).
Dale Zanine (30tr).

A Times Mirror Company

co-where oases are rare

The Sporting News Publishing Co. 1212 N. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63132 Copyright 1992 THE SPORTING NEWS. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. THE SPORTING NEWS College Football Yearbook staff is composed of Tom Osenton, President-Chief Executive Officer; William N. Topaz, Director of Information Development; Gary Levy, Editor; Mike Nahrstedt, Managing Editor; Joe Hoppel, Senior Editor; Craig Carter, Tom Dienhart and Dave Sloan, Associate Editors; Mark Shimabukuro, Assistant Editor; Bill Bayer and Kevin Hormuth, Research; Don Borst, National Writer (Division I-A); Joff D'Alessio, National Writer (Division I-AA); Don Hansen, National Writer (Division II and III); Rich Pilling, Photo Editor; Bill Perry, Director of Graphic Presentation; Mike Bruner, Art Director/Yearbooks; Bill Wilson, Art Director; Lawayne Bontrager, Computer Graphics Designer.

THE SPORTING NEWS is a registered trademark of THE SPORTING NEWS Publishing Co.

ISSN 0733-2823



CONTROLLED CONTROLLED

Rusty be nimble, Rusty be quick — it's the trend

By DAVID H. CARROLL Free-lance writer

here is no escaping them.

Wherever the football goes, so follow the swarming players of the Miami (Fla.) defensive unit.

The Hurricanes' quick, nasty and relentless horde forces opposing offenses into no-win situations. If teams try to run the ball on Miami, they have little chance of making it past the Hurricanes' swift linebackers. If opponents attempt to pass, their quarterback is hounded by Miami's ferocious pass rush or a receiver is shadowed by a Johnny-on-the-spot defender.

Miami's defenders—led by sturdy end Rusty Medearis—are armed with an attitude that is so strong that it feeds on itself. That competitive spirit has helped drive Miami to the top of the college football world.

While the no-holds-barred approach has been and continues to be crucial to the Hurricanes' success, the defining elements of Miami football seem to be the super-quickness and pure speed of its athletes. Not too many years ago, sheer size was a top priority nationwide. But no more, thanks to Miami's remarkable total of four national championships in the last nine seasons—a run of success fueled by the new model of college player.

Time and again, the fleet, everpursuing Hurricanes are just too quick for bigger, plodding teams. To be sure, the rest of the nation has taken note of the goings-on in south Florida. And, as a result, a national trend toward fast and constantly attacking players is unmistakably under way.

Which way to the ball? Miami defensive end Rusty Medearis says nothing gets in his path as he pursues the enemy. Medearis personifies this quickness and swarming style of play. He also epitomizes the intensity level put forth by Miami's athletes. One big reason that the Hurricanes led NCAA Division I-A in scoring defense last year (Miami allowed only 9.1 points per game), Medearis pursues the opposition with a gung-ho fervor. And he does so with 4.94-second speed over 40 yards.

"When you get ready to play, you have to find a 'hot button' inside yourself and push it," said Medearis, who at 6-foot-3 and 252 pounds is proof positive that the Miami-type athlete is both quick and big. "You've got to find what's inside you that gives you that drive to win at all costs. It's a controlled

"I get into a tunnel vision and I have one thing to do—that's get whoever has the ball. And nothing gets in my way."

Such intensity is necessary for survival at Greentree Practice Field, where the Hurricanes go at each other in preparation for their annual run at the national title (which they shared last year with Washington, whose defensive style is much like their own). It is at Greentree that Medearis honed his skills against the likes of such offensive linemen as Leon Searcy and Mike Sullivan. Medearis credits his learning experience against former Miami standouts with turning him into a dominant player.

"Practicing against them was like a war every day," Medearis reflected. "And I tell you—after going against Leon Searcy (a 6-3, 290-pounder), who's like two men in one big ol' body—a game is nothing. Compared to Leon, Saturdays are a day at the beach."

Game days are anything but that for quarterbacks who spend their afternoons or evenings trying to stay out of Medearis' way. The sack-happy Missourian goes after the signal-callers with the same reckless abandon that he displayed while roping stray calves back on his family's ranch.

"The great thing about playing right defensive end is that since most quarterbacks are righthanded, they never see me coming," Medearis explained. "So I just stick my helmet from the blind side right—smack—in his back. And I can just feel his body trembling as I hit him.

"Boy, I love to put that hurt on 'em. Because when I do that, I'm making things happen."

Medearis, a fourth-year junior, has put the hurt on a lot of quarterbacks lately—and thereby made a lot of things happen. Using his cat-like first step and tremendous upper-body strength, Medearis led the Hurricanes a year ago with 10 sacks and 24 quarterback pressures. He then put an exclamation point to the Hurricanes' unbeaten season with an additional four sacks in Miami's 22-0 Orange Bowl conquest of Nebraska, a good, hefty team—but one that qualifies as a "plodder" in today's terminology.

In 15 regular-season starting assignments, the unusually quick Medearis has collected 18 sacks. Overall, he has 20. With two years of eligibility remaining, he is on course to shatter the school career record of 39½ held by Daniel Stubbs

During their decade of dominance, the Hurricanes have gained a reputation for planting quarterbacks on their backsides. The school known as Quarterback U. could just as easily be renamed Sack U. Former greats like Stubbs, Russell Maryland, Cortez Kennedy, Greg Mark, Bill Hawkins and Jerome Brown left a legacy that is still very much alive.

"Rusty has stepped in where we left

CONTROLLED

off and kept the tradition going," said Maryland, the 1990 Outland Trophy winner. "Ten years from now, when we look back at this period, we'll be talking about what a dominating player Rusty Medearis was at Miami."

Assistant coaches Sonny Lubick and Art Kehoe agree.

"Rusty has become a great player because he is a tremendous worker," defensive coordinator Lubick said. "He's just relentless."

"He is an effort machine," marveled offensive line coach Kehoe. "You will double-team him and think you've stopped him. But he kicks and scratches and claws and gets through to the quarterback."

Flash back to a Thursday night early last September. Nationally televised game from the Orange Bowl. Miami vs. Heisman Trophy hopeful David Klingler and the Houston Cougars. It's third and five in the first quarter and Houston has the ball on its 21-yard line. Klingler drops back and then rolls left. Medearis fights through double-team blocking, spins loose, grabs Klingler and slings him to the ground. Another sack for Medearis. A seven-yard loss.

Medearis jumps off the crumpled quarterback and storms across the field, pumping his clenched fists and then using his hands like six-shooters.

The crowd of 71,842 goes wild.

"The electricity that came from the Orange Bowl that night was phenomenal," said Medearis, recalling Miami's 40-10 victory. "I felt like a lightning rod out there. I was so pumped up, I could have run through a wall.

"Houston came in with that supposed revolutionary offense, and we gave them a country-ass whipping. It was a personal thing for me, especially since they had been talking a lot of trash."

"Rusty takes everything pretty personal on the football field," Miami Coach Dennis Erickson acknowledged.

He is not alone.

Last year, Miami's outstanding trio of linebackers—Darrin (Flash) Smith, Michael (Bam-Bam) Barrow and Jessie (Superman) Armstead—took it personally when The Sporting News College Football Yearbook left the unit out of its top-10 linebacking groups in the nation.

"It was a slap in the face," Barrow said.

"Yeah, it bothered me because I don't see how we were left out," Smith said. "I don't mean to brag, but I thought we were the best group of linebackers then. And we set out to show that last year with our active style of play."

Miami's linebackers are active, all right. They roam the field from sideline

to sideline, running down ballcarriers and breaking up passes. In fact, Smith (126), Barrow (115) and Armstead (99) topped the Hurricanes in tackles last year and played highly prominent roles for a defense that permitted only two rushing touchdowns over the entire season.

"They are the best group of linebackers we've had here," said Miami assistant coach Tommy Tuberville. "They're smart. They love to hit. They love to run. And they love playing together. We just turn them loose and let them use their quickness. It's like having three big extra defensive backs in the game."

"The way we see it, speed kills," said Smith, a semifinalist last year for the Butkus Award, which goes to college football's No. 1 linebacker. "That was what happened against Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. It was a matter of using our quickness compared to their bigness. Our guys weren't knocking them back; our guys were running by them. You know, you can't block what you can't catch up to."

Not many blockers can catch up with Smith, who is one of the fastest linebackers in the nation with 4.42 speed. Hence the nickname "Flash."

"He's our leading tackler because he takes advantage of his great speed and has a real nose for the football," Erickson said.

"Our philosophy is to swarm like bees to the ball on every play," said Smith, a 6-1, 228-pound senior. "Sometimes the first guy doesn't make the tackle, but he's going to have two or three more of us with him. That's a big key for our defense."

Another key is Barrow, who is called "Bam-Bam" because of the way he smashes people from his middle linebacker position.

"Michael is the more physical one," Tuberville said. "He knocks players' socks off out there."

"He's probably the strongest of us when it comes to stopping the run," Smith acknowledged. "And he's pretty intense, sort of like Mike Singletary (of the Chicago Bears)."

Barrow doesn't argue.

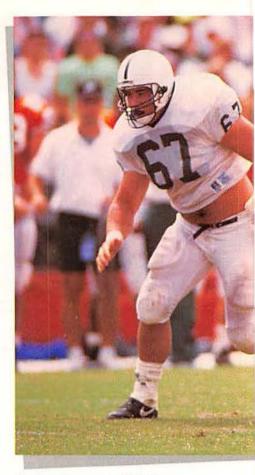
"When I hit 'em, they feel like they got hit twice," said Barrow, a 6-2, 230pound senior with 4.5 speed.

Flanking Barrow on the other side is Armstead, whose "Superman" tag is a result of his ability to fly around and make plays all over the field.

Armstead, slowed by injuries over the last two years, is finally healthy.

"This will be the first year that I've come into fall camp at 100 percent," said Armstead, who has been clocked at 4.47 seconds. "Everybody in the country will see how Jessie Armstead can run, jump and hit."

Tuberville was impressed with Armstead's knack of doing all of that last season while playing first with a sore knee and, later, with torn cartilage in his shoulder.



Clockwork orange: While Rusty Medearis (foreground) makes the principal hit on this play, he gets plenty of help from his ever-present, swarming teammates.

"Jessie is a tough kid," Tuberville said of the 6-2, 218-pound senior. "He wasn't really ready to play at the beginning of the season last year, but I threw him in there and he kept getting better and better. And he made plays everywhere. Then at the end of the season, he had that shoulder injury, but he kept on playing and producing."

Miami cornerback Ryan McNeil is the big-play man in the Hurricanes' fleet secondary. He led the team with five interceptions and 17 passes broken up last year.

What makes McNeil special is that he has the discipline to play his position, taking what is there and not forcing something that isn't.

"Ryan has become a real classy corner for us because he's intelligent, a great athlete and plays his position the way it's supposed to be played," Lubick said. "He's very unselfish. He stays in his coverage."

Occasionally, McNeil yearns to freelance just a bit.

"It's tempting to go for interceptions sometimes, but I'm not going to take a shot at individual glory at the expense of the team," McNeil said. "I play within our scheme of things."

Miami's disciplined play in the secondary was an important factor in the



team's fourth-place finish in I-A pass defense last year. The Hurricanes permitted only 88.1 aerial yards per game.

McNeil says Miami's pass defense excels because the Hurricane defenders play together as a unit.

"We know that guys up front like Rusty are going to put the squeeze on the quarterback and get the sack or maybe force 'em to make a bad throw," McNeil said. "And Rusty has enough confidence in us to know that he can rush the passer and we'll be back there making the plays downfield."

"If everyone takes care of their assignment, our defense is unstoppable," Medearis said. "There is no flaw in it. When we all do our jobs, there is nothing you can do against us. Nothing."

It was back home in Ozark, Mo., a town of 4,230, that Medearis developed his competitive spirit. You name the game or sport and chances are Rusty and his older brothers, Mark and Mike, played it.

"My brothers and I would play anything," Medearis recalled. "Sometimes we'd even make up games to compete in."

They never gave an inch in their sibling civil wars—going for the jugular in every competition.

"Rusty just could not stand to lose," said his mother, Nancy Huff. "Of course, he would lose because he was the baby. Then his older brothers would tease him and Rusty would get very angry."

Sometimes that anger erupted into fights that often concluded with Medearis nursing a black eye or bloody lip. Such experiences only served to toughen him up.

Soon, the fast-growing Medearis was no one to mess with. His physical development could be traced to the chores he performed on the family's 700-acre ranch in Sparta, eight miles from Ozark. That is where he learned his strong work ethic. At age 5, Medearis rode his own horse, Mack, bareback, helping his brothers herd about 500 head of cattle in the spring. He also helped mend fences, gave the animals food and water and roped calves to give them their medication.

The highly active and determined youngster soon decided he wanted to be a football player.

"We had it all figured out," his mother recalled with a laugh. "Mark, the oldest and tallest, was going to play pro basketball. Mike, the next oldest, was going to play pro baseball. And Rusty was going to play in the NFL one day."

Rusty's parents were divorced when he was in the fourth grade. From that point on, his mother sacrificed so her children could play their games and chase their dreams.

"My mother is the greatest," Medearis said. "She worked two jobs and never, ever missed one of our games. There were tough times... and she always went the extra distance. We always had what we needed. If we needed new shoes for playing basketball, she would go out and work for it."

By the time Medearis reached Ozark High School, he had developed into quite an athlete. He proceeded to become a two-time all-state linebacker and led the basketball team in scoring and rebounding. After a senior season in which Medearis recorded 178 tackles, the college recruiters came calling. Notre Dame, Washington, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Miami were all interested.

At first, Medearis leaned toward Washington. But a comment made by Oklahoma assistant coach Merv Johnson stuck in his mind.

"Merv had said, 'You never know what's going to happen in college,' "Medearis recalled. "'If you're going to sit on the bench anywhere in the country, where would it be?' "

"I didn't want to be at Washington with all that rain," Medearis said. "I wanted to be in Miami by the beach."

There also was that Miami "attitude" that Medearis had come to love.

"The first time I became a Miami fan was back when Bernie Kosar was playing quarterback," he said. "I was watching the 'Canes play on TV when Kosar came over to the sidelines, with the camera right on him. It's fourth and inches...."

Kosar, Medearis remembered, made a strong let's-go-for-it plea, an appeal punctuated with an obscenity.

"I mean, he came right up to (Coach) Jimmy Johnson and said that," Medearis said in awe. "I just loved that gofor-it attitude."

Thoroughly impressed by Miami's approach to the game, Medearis decided to sign with the Hurricanes.

"I knew it was the place for me because they just glowed with intensity," he said. "I felt like I would fit right in."

"There's no question Rusty had that University of Miami attitude," agreed Phil Montgomery, who was Medearis' defensive coach in high school. "He had that arrogance and intensity. Off the field, he was just a big, friendly country boy. On the field, though, he was relentless and tougher than a pine knot."

Most folks in Ozark were flabbergasted when one of their own opted for such a "foreign" place as Miami.

"A lot of people back home couldn't believe it," Medearis said. "They thought I was going to the violence capital of the world. They thought Miami was like a big prison. They'd say, 'If you go down there, son, you're taking your life into your own hands.'

"But I wanted to go to a school where I could make something of myself. I knew if I could play at Miami, I could play for anybody."

As might be expected, Medearis' small-town background has become the source of constant ribbing from his teammates.

"We kid him about when he has a good game, somebody might go out to celebrate and shoot out the only stoplight in Ozark," former Hurricanes teammate Eric Miller said.

CONTROLL

As friendly and down-to-earth as might be expected of a young man from rural America, Medearis comes across as the real thing.

"Rusty is a very sincere young man," Lubick said. "He's a joy to be around because he's such a genuine person."

Medearis earned the respect of his collegiate coaches and teammates from the get-go, standing out as a member of the scout squad while being redshirted in 1989

"That year he was on the scout team. we couldn't block him," said Erickson, reflecting on Medearis' ability to prepare varsity players for the mayhem of the forthcoming Saturday.

When finally given a chance to start-against Texas Tech as a redshirt freshman in 1990-Medearis responded with an eye-opening performance. All he did was make 12 solo tackles and 51/3 sacks.

"I had just been sitting back and waiting," he said. "I knew when I got my chance, I'd have to make good on it. That's the way it is at Miami.'

Medearis has been dishing it out ever since. Of course, it helps to be able to squat 515 pounds and clean-and-jerk 358 pounds the way he can. He has bulked up from 218 pounds to his present rockhard 252.

"At 218, I was mostly skin and bones coming out of high school," Medearis said. "I had played so much basketball that it had been hard to put on any weight. But since I've been here, I've spent a lot of time lifting, and I'm at a good weight now."

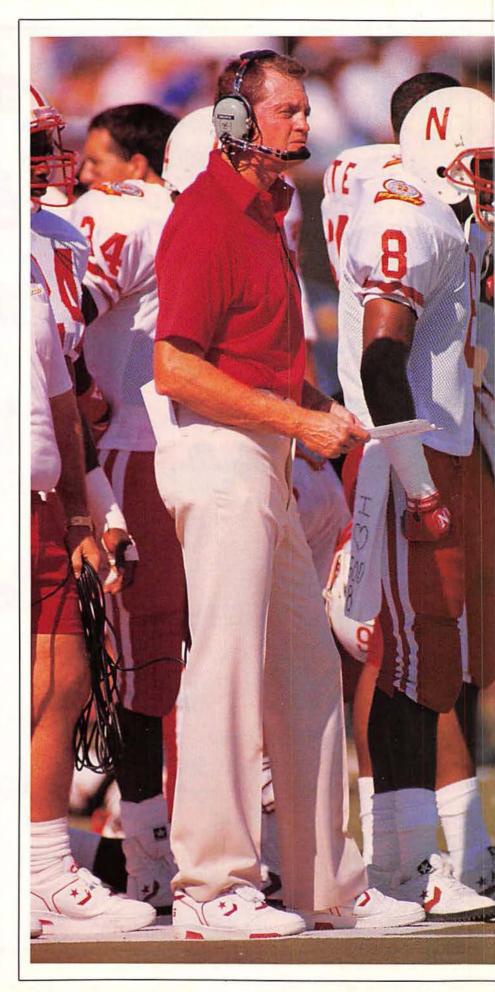
Medearis has spent even more time running in the stifling heat of south Florida.

"You have to be able to run to play at Miami," he said of the Hurricanes' swarming style. "In practice, we run and run and run, and when we drop, we get up and run some more. That's why, in the fourth quarter, Miami is going to be the team that is going to prevail. Because we're the most in shape.

"I love being Number 1," added Medearis, alluding to the Hurricanes' amazing success of the last decade. "We're the big boy on the block, and people just hate us because we win all the time. They're angry and they're jealous.

"And unless some coach can find the players to line up on the field and beat us, there's nothing they can do about it. We'll keep on being Number 1.'

At least, that is, as long as Miami continues to out-recruit its peers for the 1990s type of collegiate player-quick and/or fleet, intense, ever-pursuing. In other words, the Rusty Medearis kind of athlete.



Huskers do a slow (what else?) burn as opponents use speed to dominate in bowls, other big games

By LEE BARFKNECHT Omaha World-Herald

n recent years, Nebraska has found out the hard way just how important the speed game has be-

Despite their gaudy 49-6-1 record in regular-season games since 1987, the Cornhuskers have lost five straight bowl games, including their last four by an average margin of 22.5 points. The main reason? Their speed—or lack thereof.

"College football has become a much quicker game," Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne said. "As speed has become more of a factor, it has tended to favor areas of the country where there are more fast people and there is more emphasis on running. And that emphasis is where the weather is warmer year-round."

Nebraska's five bowl losses could be offered as proof. All have come against warm-weather teams (Miami twice, Florida State twice and Georgia Tech) in games played at warm-weather sites (Miami twice, Phoenix twice and Orlando). The fact that all of those games were played on grass fields also is noteworthy.

The Huskers, who play their home games on artificial turf, have lost five of their last six games on natural grass, a surface that tends to magnify a team's lack of speed.

To get in line with the prevailing trend toward faster players, the Cornhuskers' recruiting trail took them into 35 states last spring. Of the 22 players Nebraska signed last February, 12 have run the 100-meter dash in under 11 seconds. But, Osborne said, his team's search for speed is more evolutionary than revolutionary.

"It wasn't a decision that we were just going to go out and find all the speed we could this year," said Osborne, the winningest active coach in NCAA Division I-A. "Obviously, any guy who is a good player with speed is a high priority. But he is with a lot of other people, too. Everybody is doing the same thing."

Unlike many major-college powers, Nebraska benefits little, in terms of speed, from its in-state talent. Only three of the 14 Nebraska players who have run electronically-timed 40-yard dashes of 4.5 seconds or better in the last five years are native Nebraskans. And all three—Keith Jones, Curtis

Coach Tom Osborne: Nebraska's quest for fleet players is termed evolutionary.

Cotton and Calvin Jones—hail from the same high school (Central in Omaha).

"We have a few guys in our state like that," Osborne said. "But to find a big lineman who runs 4.7 in the 40-yard dash or a back who runs 4.4 or a wide receiver who runs 4.3, most of the time we're looking at having to overcome a long distance to recruit them."

Three years ago, wide receiver Kevin Williams of Roosevelt High School in Dallas paid a recruiting visit to Nebraska and came away impressed.

"Their weight room was awesome," said Williams, who has run the 40 in 4.28 seconds. "And they told me I could be a Dana Brinson-type wingback."

But there was another factor the Cornhuskers could do little about.

"Man, I hated the cold," Williams said, "That really bothered me."

Williams eventually signed with Miami, and he played a big part in the Hurricanes' 22-0 romp over Nebraska in last season's Orange Bowl. He caught eight passes for 126 yards, including a 36-yard bomb that set up his own eight-yard touchdown catch for the first score of the game.

Osborne said Miami's skill-position players were impressive, but the speed in the offensive and defensive lines was what really caught his eye.

"That's what got me," he said.
"Their people up front were really quick."

Osborne said he met Bill Walsh, now head coach at Stanford, at a meeting last winter. Walsh had been part of the Orange Bowl broadcast team for NBC.

"Bill told me that in visiting Miami's practices, that he had never seen a college team with as many great athletes," Osborne said. "He said he was amazed at the ability of their guys on the second and third teams and their overall team speed.

"That doesn't mean we can't compete with that. On a neutral field, if we got untracked and played Miami 10 times, we might have been able to beat them a couple times or maybe three. They were good enough, obviously, that they were going to win more than half.

"The biggest difference overall was

The Orange Bowl was not the first time Nebraska had problems with a fast opponent last season. Washington, which shared the national championship with Miami, scored 27 straight points to whip the Cornhuskers, 36-21, in Lincoln last September. The Huskies used six track stars on defense to surround 285-pound All-America tackle Steve Emtman and 265-pound middle guard Tyrone Rodgers.

"The kind of speed Miami and Washington had becomes a factor, if nothing else because of their ability to recover," Osborne said. "In both those games, we sometimes looked like we had a good play going, but we would only get two yards."

Nebraska is no stranger to the havoc speed can wreak. In 1983, the Cornhuskers scored an NCAA-record 89 touchdowns with their "Scoring Explosion" backfield of I-back Mike Rozier, wingback Irving Fryar, quarterback Turner Gill and fullback Mark Schellen.

In 1990, its defense was ranked No. 2 in the nation before a late-season collapse. Among the starters on that unit were first-round National Football League draft picks Mike Croel at line-backer (4.62 speed in the 40) and Bruce Pickens at cornerback (4.46), along with NFL draftees Kenny Walker at tackle (4.58) and Tahaun Lewis at cornerback (4.47). Current Husker free safety Tyrone Byrd (4.58) also played on that defense.

Osborne thinks speed might become even more important in coming years

"College football has become more like pro football—it is so situational," he said. "The teams that hurt you are the ones who you have to play standard defense against because you can't tell if they are going to run or pass.

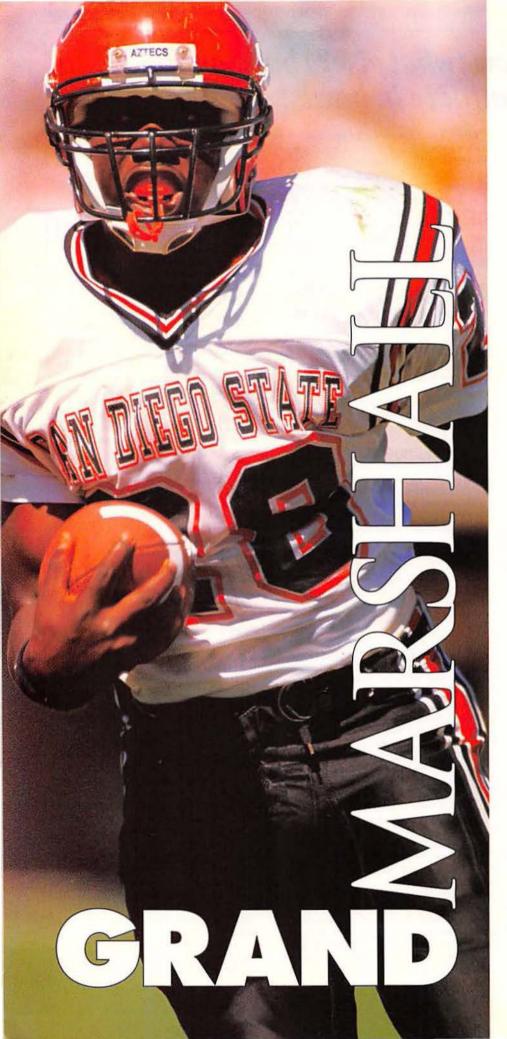
"If you don't have great people with the size to play the run and the speed to defend the pass, you can get hurt trying to get the right people on the field at the right time.

"What you would like to do is play defense with a whole bunch of Neil Smiths (the former Nebraska All-America who now stars for the Kansas City Chiefs) who run 4.7, and then find a bunch of big offensive linemen who run 4.9. I like having speed. But it's hard to locate 15 or 20 guys like that."

Finding fast people who also can play football is often easier said than done.

"You can't just go get a bunch of track guys and play," Osborne said. "You've got to get guys who have football ability, too.

"A lot of it has come down to a matter of who can get the most good players who also have good speed."



Aztecs' Faulk leads parade of freshmen making impact on wide scale

By MICHAEL BRADLEY Free-lance writer

here were times during Marshall Faulk's magical 1991 freshman season at San Diego State that Aztecs Coach Al Luginbill would look at his defensive depth chart and think scandalous thoughts.

When Luginbill's eyes scanned San Diego State's porous defensive backfield, a welcome sight for enemy passers every week, he would envision Faulk surrendering his post at running back and playing one of the cornerback positions.

And why not? Faulk was an unbelievable cover guy in high school who intercepted 11 passes during his senior season. Plus, the Aztecs had another freshman sensation in running back Wayne Pittman, who averaged 149.7 yards per game in three 1991 starts when Faulk was injured.

"Every time he took the field, I thought about that," Luginbill said almost sheepishly about using Faulk at cornerback. "Our secondary fell off during the last three games of the season, and we didn't have the quality depth to play a 12-game schedule. If Faulk was on that side of the ball, it would have made a big difference."

As it turned out, Faulk made a big difference on his side of the ball. He dazzled fans, teammates and opponents throughout 1991 with a variety of long-distance touchdown jaunts, including a 63-yarder against New Mexico and a 61-yarder vs. Pacific. But it was a short, nine-yard touchdown burst against Hawaii that convinced Luginbill that a weak secondary was OK if you had a strong Marshall Faulk at running back.

The play occurred with two minutes, 13 seconds remaining in the first quarter of San Diego State's 47-21 romp over the Rainbows. Immediately after taking a handoff from sophomore quarterback David Lowery, Faulk confronted a pile of tacklers and blockers. He hurdled the human morass, hit the ground, made an instant, 90-degree cut to avoid another defender and dashed between two more enemies into the end zone.

"I stood there in utter disbelief," Luginbill said. "He made three people miss him in a three-yard area where there was no room to run. That's not coaching. It's natural ability. His ability to do things on the football field is mindboggling."

"You can't plan that kind of stuff," Faulk added, doing his best to describe

his running style. "You never know when a pile will be in front of you. It happens, and you avoid it by instinct."

Faulk's instincts made him one of the most successful freshmen ever to play college football. He became the first freshman in NCAA history to lead Division I-A in rushing (158.8 yards per game) and scoring (15.6 points per game). He also set an NCAA singlegame rushing record by gaining 386 yards in about three quarters of work against Pacific, although his record was broken later in the season when Kansas' Tony Sands gained 396 against Missouri. And he established enough school marks to merit his own appendix in the Aztec media guide.

Faulk's exploits topped an impressive 1991 ledger of true freshmen who enjoyed strong debut seasons. Joining him on the newcomer honor roll were Georgia quarterback Eric Zeier, Texas A&M defensive end Sam Adams, Tennessee running backs Aaron Hayden and James Stewart, Alabama allpurpose star David Palmer, Oklahoma State tailback Rafael Denson, Kansas linebacker Steve Harvey, Colorado tailback Lamont Warren, Purdue tailback Corey Rogers, Pittsburgh linebacker Tom Tumulty and Michigan tailback Tyrone Wheatley.

Prodigies, all of them. But Faulk skipped prodigy and proceeded directly to phenom. The Miami (Fla.) defensive coaches knew that Faulk was a phenom. They spent the week before the Hurricanes' game with San Diego State telling their players that Faulk would be the best back they'd face all year. They weren't lying. Faulk ripped the eventual Associated Press national

champs for 154 yards.

It's ironic that Miami's staff ended up devising ways to stop Faulk when it could have been designing plays to exploit his talents. While a senior at Carver High School in New Orleans, the 5foot-10, 180-pound Faulk attracted bigtime interest from the Hurricanes as well as Nebraska. But both schools wanted him as a defensive back, not as a game-breaking running back. That was understandable, considering that Carver was a passing team and few college scouts got to see Faulk use his ballcarrying skills.

They did, however, see him play defense. And they drooled. They envisioned a scavenger who could pick off passes and then zip through offenses on the return. But Faulk didn't see that. When San Diego State assistant coach Curtis Johnson told Faulk that he'd have a shot at playing running back as an Aztec, Faulk headed west.

"We told him when he came here that if he was among the top two freshman running backs coming out of preseason practice, he could stay on offense," Luginbill said. "Otherwise, he would go to defense.

"In our first scrimmage, it was obvious he had talent and an awareness."

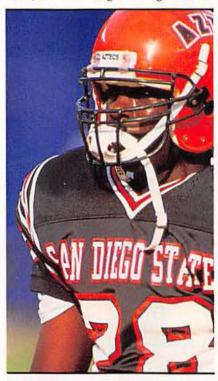
Faulk's practice achievements

earned him a backup role behind senior T.C. Wright in the opener against Long Beach State. Faulk carried 11 times for 39 yards and a touchdown, a mere footnote in the 49-13 Aztec rout of the 49ers. The next week, the game was secondary to Faulk.

When Wright sustained a thigh bruise with 3:55 remaining in the first quarter against Pacific, Faulk took over and detonated. Aside from gaining 386 yards, Faulk scored 44 points (seven touchdowns and a two-point conversion), which set NCAA freshman single-game scoring and touchdown marks.

"I was just trying to make things happen the best I could," Faulk said. "I wasn't thinking about what was happening until after the game."

Luginbill was chivalrous, claiming that Wright still had the starting job. Sure, he did. Wright had gained 730



Understatement: For Marshall Faulk. rushing for 386 yards in one game is an example of "making things happen."

yards as a junior in 1990, but that looked like about six quarters of work for Faulk, considering the way he exploded against Pacific. By the time Faulk hit San Diego State's next three opponents for a combined 405 yards and eight touchdowns, Wright was probably wondering if that defensive backfield job was still open.

"There's no way we could have projected that kind of year for a player coming right out of high school," Luginbill said. "He has a sixth sense. You compare it to the great running backs or the great floor leaders in basketball or someone like Joe Montana. Why do they do certain things? I don't think anyone can say. They just have an ability to go above and beyond."

Faulk thrives because of his unique combination of physical and emotional maturity. He ran a 10.3-second 100 meters while in high school, and he can leg-press nearly 1,000 pounds. But Faulk's mind may be even more valuable to his football future.

A product of one of New Orleans' worst housing sections, Faulk appreciates football as a way out. Still, he keeps the game's importance well within perspective. He is as competitive in the classroom as he is on the field, and he has handled the media crunch that has surrounded his exploits with an aplomb that belies his 19 years.

He also knows the game of football. While at Carver, Faulk and his teammates would prepare for opponents by walking through plays against various defensive alignments. Every player on the Carver offense would have to read every defensive player and answer questions about their responsibilities. It was tedious-and effective.

"I still use that now, and it helps a lot," Faulk said. "When we break out of the huddle, I look at the defense and figure it out. If you know you can attack something, you go after it."

Faulk finished last season with 1,429 yards, the third-highest total ever for a freshman. Had he been healthy for all of 1991, his attack on the NCAA's singleseason rushing mark might have been successful. But Faulk, with 153 yards rushing and two touchdowns already to his credit in the Aztecs' October 12 game with New Mexico, suffered a pair of cracked ribs and a collapsed lung in the second quarter and missed the next three games.

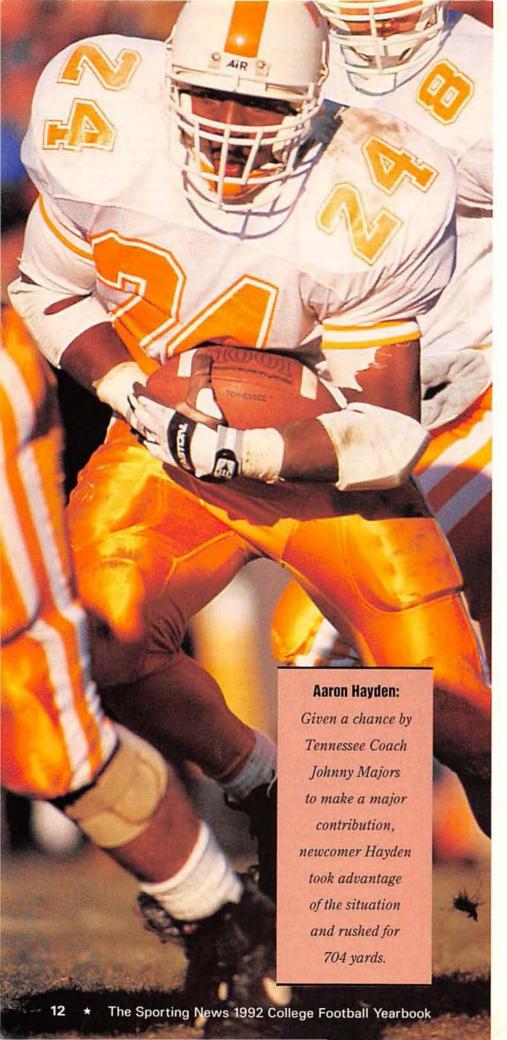
Faulk spent a week in the hospital and two more weeks healing on the sidelines. He returned November 9 and gained 174 yards against Colorado State, but folks around the country were beginning to wonder whether Faulk's success was attributed to the weak defenses in the Western Athletic Conference. They had seen it before from Brigham Young quarterbacks who thrived on the league's Swiss cheese defenses. Wait until Faulk faced a real team, like Miami.

Yeah, just wait. Faulk ran for 154 yards on 27 carries against the vaunted Hurricane defense in a late-season matchup. After the game, Miami linebacker Jessie Armstead, who normally is a grudging dispenser of praise, compared Faulk to Walter Payton and Raghib (Rocket) Ismail.

"He's fast and quick," Armstead said. "A lot of guys are one or the other, but not both. He'll make you miss, and he runs low to the ground. When you line up a tackle, he's going to bring it to you.

He punished our DBs.'

So, Faulk enters his sophomore year with a major reputation. That means he'll probably see plenty of seven- and eight-man lines from opponents and



fewer chances for wildfire performances every week.

But don't forget, Faulk plays in the WAC, a league noted for its ballistic passing attacks (except for Air Force). Lowery threw for 2,575 yards and 19 touchdowns last year, and Luginbill says that he'll use Faulk as a (gasp!) decoy if he has to until things open up on the ground.

"That won't bother me," Faulk said.
"Opponents will just get hurt another way. And as the season goes by, other teams will respect that we do have great receivers. If they say they won't let Marshall beat them, we have a team that can beat them."

While opposing coaches try to figure out how to stop Faulk this season, many of their peers nationwide will be puzzling over methods to slow down the other sophomore backs who made striking debuts in 1991.

Take the Southeastern Conference, for instance. Those teams get another three years of the Tennessee tandem of Aaron Hayden and James Stewart. The Volunteer backfield was cleaned out by graduation in the spring of '91, leaving Coach Johnny Majors looking even grumpier than usual. Given a shot to play despite their inexperience, Hayden and Stewart combined for 1,643 yards and 15 TDs.

"We knew that any freshmen we recruited with any kind of ability would have a chance to contribute," Majors said.

Hayden showed his talent right away by galloping for 109 yards in the Vols' season-opening win against Louisville. He finished with 704 yards, which ranked sixth in the SEC. Stewart was even better, finishing fifth in the league with 939 yards. He topped the century mark in rushing six times (which tied a school record) and ripped through Mississippi for a personal-best 215 yards.

"Both are tough, with good natural instincts," Majors said. "They have good enough hands to win with, but they need to mature and make fewer mistakes. We'd like to see them make some longer runs. We got them into the open field several times and only got one really long run (a 67-yard dash by Hayden against Memphis State)."

Maybe Majors should have recruited Tyrone Wheatley away from Michigan. He showed the kind of game-breaking speed the Wolverine backfield had lacked in previous seasons. Though he began the year as a third-stringer, Wheatley finished with 548 yards on just 86 carries. Included in that yardage total were a 74-yard TD jaunt against Northwestern and a where-did-hecome-from 53-yard scoring bolt in Michigan's annual Rose Bowl loss. Though Wheatley again will share the tailback spot with Ricky Powers and Jesse Johnson, he'll get plenty of work.

"You can't have too many running backs in the Big Ten," said Tirrel Burton, Michigan's offensive backfield coach. "Tyrone is pretty close to being a complete player. He's the fastest kid in the program, is a good receiver and a good athlete. He could play quarterback, tight end and he'd be a great defensive back."

One guy who won't have to worry about sharing the load is Colorado's Lamont Warren. With the Buffaloes ditching the option attack for a one-back configuration that will feature more passing, Warren will be busy this season. And that's good, if you are a Colorado fan. In just nine games in '91, Warren rushed for 830 yards and seven touchdowns.

Though he sat out spring ball following surgery for a separated shoulder he suffered midway through last season, Warren and his 4.3 speed will be back in plenty of time to frighten Big Eight Conference opponents this fall.

"We were going to redshirt him last year, but we changed our mind and put him in against Minnesota (in week three)," Colorado Coach Bill Mc-Cartney said. "Boy, was he good. He has that extra gear along with excellent vision and balance."

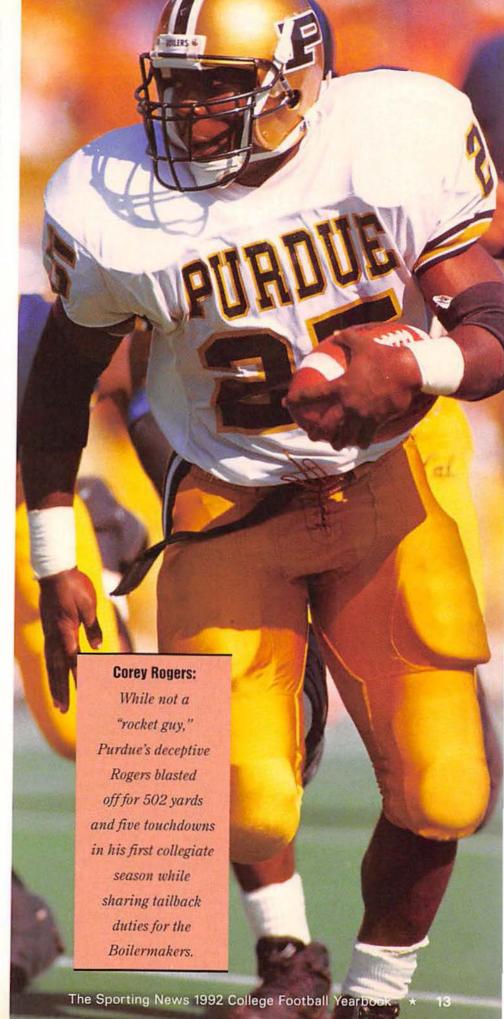
They've had a few guys like that at Oklahoma State. Thurman Thomas. Barry Sanders. And now, Rafael Denson. The inevitable comparisons began when Denson took over the starting tailback job in the fourth week of the season, and they haven't stopped, despite Denson's attempts to fashion his own identity. He could have inherited Sanders' jersey number, 21, but he went to Cowboys Coach Pat Jones and asked for 22. "He's aware of what came before him," Jones said.

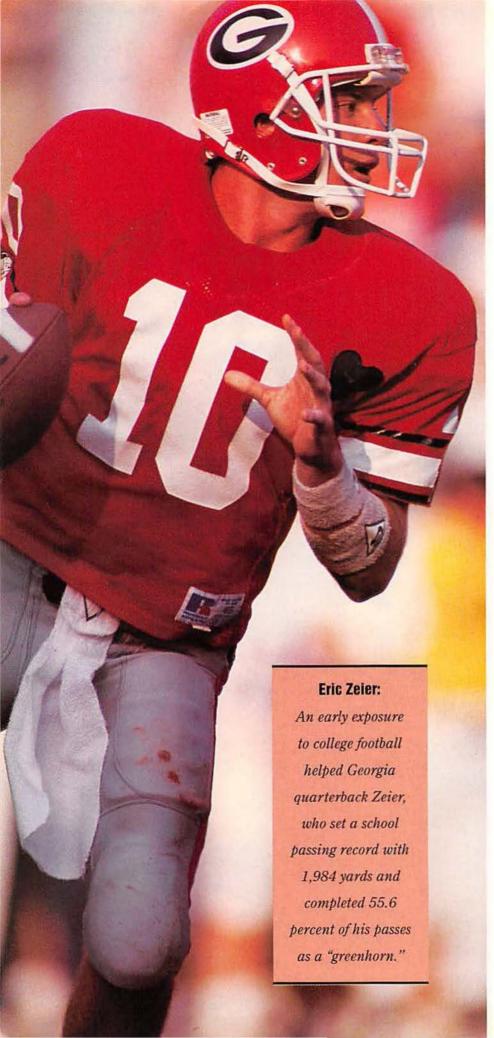
And he has a chance to fit right into that heritage. Though Denson rushed for only 569 yards on 150 carries, he did so for a 0-10-1 team that featured a bad offensive line. Had there been some holes, Denson would have jetted through them. As it was, he had to use every morsel of his 5-8, 165-pound frame each time he got the ball.

"He is strong enough to run through an arm tackle," Jones said. "You get the same sensation with him as you did with Sanders, of taking your breath away. He can make the cuts, and he'll get even better."

While Jones knew that Denson would fit neatly into Oklahoma State's running back legacy, Purdue Coach Jim Colletto wasn't sure what to expect from Corey Rogers. When Colletto arrived at Purdue after the '90 season following a stint as offensive coordinator at Ohio State, he hadn't even recruited Rogers. Unfamiliar with his new commodity, Colletto wanted to redshirt him. But a couple of unexpected academic casualties forced Colletto to reassess his strategy, and Rogers got his shot a year early.

Rogers hit a bull's-eye, earning Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors. While sharing the tailback position with





Jeff Hill, Rogers rushed for 502 yards on 108 carries and scored five TDs. Though he missed the last two games of the season after suffering cartilage damage in his right knee, Rogers is expected to be healthy this season and again will split time with Hill, a junior. That won't bother Rogers, whose gregarious nature allows him to accept almost any situation.

"He's a jolly guy," Colletto said with a laugh. "He even enjoys practice. When he was hurt last year, we had to send him over to hold the down markers because he was talking to everyone and disturbing them.

"On the field, he's deceptive. He's not a rocket guy, but he can run through tackles, and he has a good feel of where to go."

Thanks to an early enrollment program run in conjunction with his high school, Georgia quarterback Eric Zeier developed a similar confidence of what he had to do for the Bulldogs. Because he entered college in January of 1991, Zeier was able to take part in Georgia's spring drills and learn the new offense installed by Coach Ray Goff. When the Bulldogs sputtered on offense early in the season, the former prep star was ready to go.

"By coming in early and getting exposed to college football, it gave me more time to prepare for it," said Zeier, who was named SEC Freshman of the Year. "I still should have been better. I made a lot of mistakes, and even when we got down near the end zone, we couldn't always put the ball in. I threw a lot of passes that should have been completed."

Zeier did complete 55.6 percent of his passes, which isn't bad for a greenhorn. He started Georgia's last six games and finished with a school-record 1,984 yards passing with seven TDs and only four interceptions. Against Kentucky, he became the first Bulldog since 1963 to pass for more than 300 yards in a game.

The SEC was blessed by the presence of another freshman marvel in '91—Alabama's David Palmer. Though Palmer's statistics weren't all that glittering—156 yards rushing, 314 yards receiving, 386 yards on punt returns and 257 yards on kickoff returns—his all-purpose value to the Crimson Tide was immeasurable.

Aside from returning kicks, he played flanker, tailback and even quarterback, amassing 1,113 all-purpose yards in the process. His touchdowns fell into the electrifying category, including a 90-yard punt return against Louisiana State, a 69-yard punt return against Tulane and a how-did-he-dothat 10-yard option keeper in the Tide's 13-6 win over Auburn. In Alabama's 30-25 Blockbuster Bowl victory over Colorado, Palmer accumulated 146 total yards, including a 52-yard punt return for a touchdown-the fourth time he had scored on a punt return as a freshman.

"He has a knack for making people miss him," Alabama Coach Gene Stallings said. "Either you have that or you don't. Every time he gets the ball, he makes things happen. We've been working on ways to get the ball to him even more."

At Pittsburgh, Coach Paul Hackett and his staff have spent the off-season devising ways to get inside linebacker Tom Tumulty to the ball. "We were looking for someone to make the cornerstone of our defense, and Tommy is the guy," Hackett said.

The numbers show that Hackett made a good choice. Tumulty finished with 84 tackles despite tailing off late in the year, by which time the rigors of an 11-game season had begun to take a toll on the youngster. Tumulty earned Big East Conference Defensive Rookie of the Year honors.

Tumulty, who became just the sixth Pitt player in the last two decades to start the first game of his freshman season, teamed with Charles Williams at inside linebacker in Pitt's new 3-4 defense and was given the freedom to roam from sideline to sideline. Williams called the signals and took on the blockers, while Tumulty found the ball-carrier.

"We didn't want to make it too complicated for Tom," Hackett said. "We just wanted him to fly around to the football. He played violently and with great range and is a tireless man in pursuit."

Steve Harvey proved Tumulty's equal in the determination department, and all he was trying to do was get on the field. A serious knee injury suffered in a 1990 summer all-star game prevented Harvey from enrolling as planned at Kansas that fall.

He did enroll in school in January 1991, but Harvey's rehabilitation kept him from participating in spring contact drills. Then, when everything looked fine, the inside linebacker missed Kansas' first two '91 games due to an NCAA technicality and a minor, non-football facial injury.

"He went through a lot," Kansas Coach Glen Mason said.

Harvey proceeded to make a lot of trouble for Kansas opponents last year. He started the final eight games and contributed mightily to the Jayhawks' turnaround 6-5 season. His knee gave him no trouble, and the year off helped him mature as a leader on the field, despite his freshman designation.

"He is the complete package," Mason said of Harvey, who won Big Eight Newcomer of the Year honors. "He has big-play capability and is a great competitor. You better have a good middle linebacker if you're going to play a 4-3 defense. We have that in Steve."

Texas A&M had a good middle linebacker last year in Quentin Coryatt, who has since graduated to the pro ranks. But the Aggies had some more talent throughout their top-ranked defense, including defensive end Sam Adams.

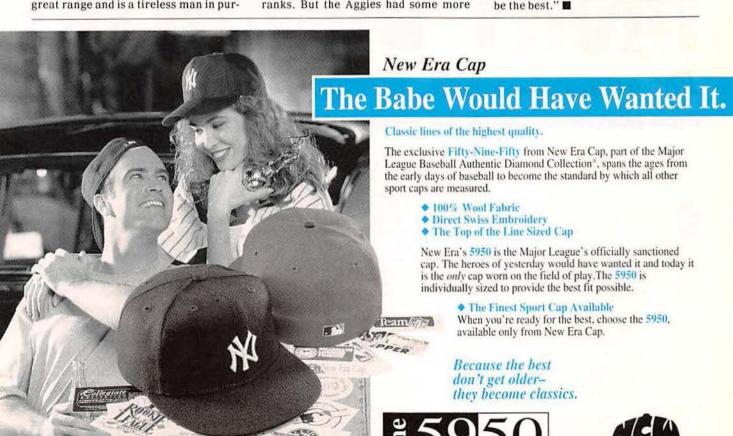
First-year collegians usually stand a better chance of contributing immediately if they are offensive backs or linebackers, so Adams' meteoric rise as a lineman is all the more special. Typically, linemen need a couple of years to grow and mature before contributing. But not Adams.

He started the Aggies' final nine games of the '91 season and posted some impressive numbers (35 tackles, 5½ sacks). In his first start (against Texas Tech), Adams sacked Red Raider quarterback Jamie Gill, forcing the senior out of the game. Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum was so impressed with Adams that he already is comparing him to former Aggie defensive line standouts Ray Childress and Jacob Green.

"He plays a little more mature than an average freshman," Slocum said. "He doesn't get bounced around, and he doesn't back down. He's a tough, physical player who really mixes it up. He has quickness and excellent strength.

"One of the challenges for Sam is whether he continues to work to be one of the premier players. He's as good as I've been around, and the key will be whether he'll work to improve. Childress still works to improve. Sam has to have that same burning desire to be the best."

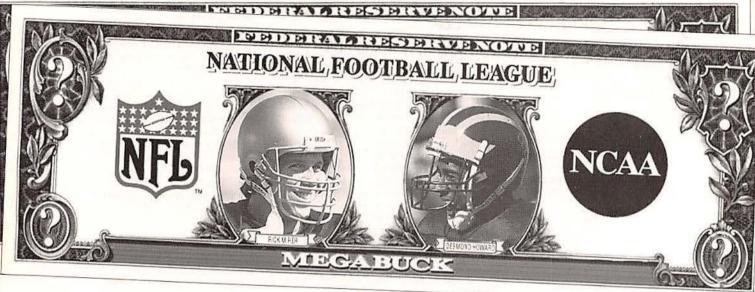
Since 1920



NEW ERA CAP IS THE EXCLUSIVE SUPPLIER OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASERALL'S AUTHENTIC DIAMOND COLLECTION® CAPS by New Era

Footlocker, Pro Image, Merle Harmon's FanFair stores and at other fine quality retail establishme





RSM BUSINESS

For underclassmen, decision to opt for the draft can mean big bucks — or mega-disappointment

By ED SHERMAN Chicago Tribune

ne was going, one was staying. The decisions, though, had a common thread.

At Nebraska, Johnny Mitchell was outspoken, even cocky. Oh, yes, he was an exceptional football player, too. A standout tight end with two years of eligibility remaining.

At Miami (Fla.), junior Lamar Thomas also was outspoken, even cocky. Oh, yes, at times he bordered on being an exceptional wide receiver. Thomas could go deep early, late and often.

Last January, Mitchell and Thomas held press conferences.

"I'm going to the pros," Mitchell announced.

"I'm staying," Thomas disclosed.

Mitchell's reason? His grandparents. Thomas' reason? His grandmother.

On the field, Thomas loves to dance—maybe too much, in fact, for critics of Miami's demonstrative celebrating. But there's also a serious side to the

Gainesville, Fla., native. It came out when he was trying to decide whether to turn pro.

"I thought about leaving," Thomas said. "But my grandmother raised me. And she wanted me to stay in school and get my education. When I told her I was thinking about coming out, she said down deep she wanted me to get my degree. That stayed in my mind."

Mitchell also was reared by his grandparents. He grew up in rural Mississippi before moving to Chicago for his final two years of high school. After sitting out his freshman year of college because of Proposition 48, Mitchell managed to flash star quality as a tight end, which is no small feat in Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne's run-oriented offense

Initially, Mitchell said he was going to return to Nebraska for the 1992 season. But after the Orange Bowl last January, he visited his grandparents. Then he changed his mind.

"My grandfather was sick, and they live in a 125-year-old house that has one heated room," Mitchell said. "It was horrible. I couldn't stand to see my grandfather live like that. I love them more than anyone else. I had to do something for them. I had to come out."

If his grandparents weren't in the picture, Mitchell acknowledges that he might have stayed at Nebraska for another year and perhaps even two. But that isn't the point.

"This goes much deeper than school," said Mitchell, who wound up as a first-round choice of the New York Jets in last April's National Football League draft. "If I have to sacrifice my career for them, I will. I've got to get them out of there."

They all have their stories and their reasons. For the most part, they tell them at news conferences.

With college juniors officially eligible for the NFL draft starting in 1990, the result has created a new phenomenon—the postseason "will-he-orwon't-he?" watch. There is considerable intrigue over the round in which a certain underclassman might get drafted and whether it would indeed be a

good decision for him to come out. Additionally, there is much speculation over the ramifications of his departure on a national scope.

From Desmond Howard of Michigan to Steve Emtman of Washington to Rick Mirer of Notre Dame, decisions are reached and everyone holds his breath.

Ever since Heisman Trophy-winning Barry Sanders decided to bypass his senior year and enter the NFL draft in 1989, college football hasn't been quite the same. The Sanders case shattered an unspoken rule that the NFL wouldn't draft underclassmen. Selected with the third pick overall by the Detroit Lions, Sanders has rushed for 4,322 yards in three NFL seasons.

With no legal leg to stand on, the NFL officially opened the draft to juniors the next year and now finds itself unable to block even younger players—like Nebraska's Mitchell—from declaring.

In 1990, Heisman winner Andre Ware followed Sanders' lead and gave up his chance for a second award. The verdict isn't in yet on Ware, a first-round selection who has thrown only 30 passes in two seasons with Detroit. Other notables opting for the draft before their senior seasons have included Emmitt Smith (Florida), Todd Marinovich (Southern California) and Keith McCants (Alabama). Smith led the NFL in rushing last year with 1,563 yards.

This year, Howard decided he'd rather take the pro money than make another run at the Heisman. Emtman also opted for the big bucks, giving up his chance to become the first defensive player to win the Heisman. Other 1991 standouts opting for an early shot at the pros included Florida State cornerback Terrell Buckley and Seminoles running back Amp Lee, and Tennessee wide receiver Carl Pickens.

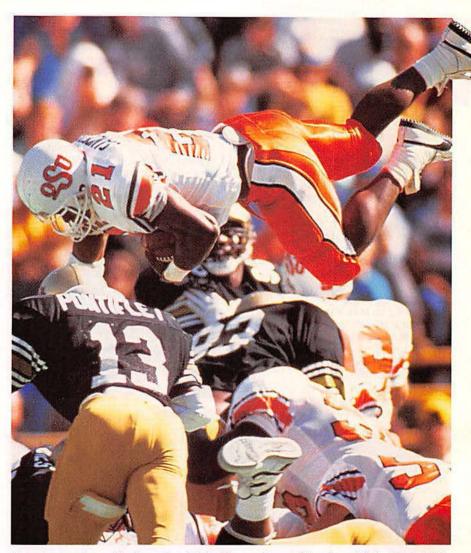
All told, 101 underclassmen have filed for the draft since the NFL revised the eligibility rules, including 34 this year. But it's a risky business for some. Once the decision to jump has been made, it's like falling out of an airplane—there's no turning back. The player can't test the draft waters and then decide to play more collegiate football (although there is some support for such a scenario in the future).

In other words, declaring for the draft means Joe College is now a pro—whether he gets chosen or not. And many underclass draft eligibles haven't been selected (20 of 38 were ignored in '90, for example).

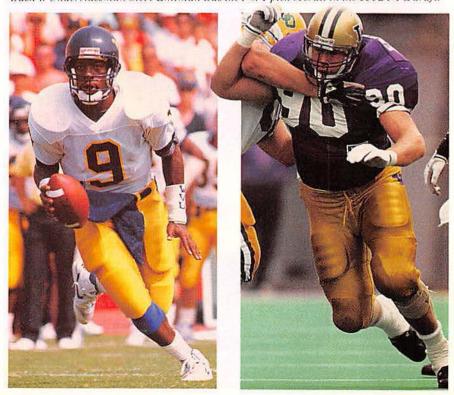
In this game of choice and chance, there have been winners and losers. The stakes are usually high.

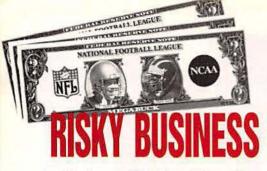
In an Ann Arbor, Mich., coffeehouse on a snowy morning last November, Desmond Howard insisted he would return for his senior season with Michigan's Wolverines.

"Sure," his lunch companion said.



Over the top: Barry Sanders (above) left college early, confident he could play in the NFL. While Sanders was right on the money in more ways than one, Major Harris (bottom, left) wasn't. Underclassman Steve Emtman was the No. 1 pick overall in the 1992 NFL draft.





"Yeah, yeah, I'll be back," Howard insisted.

"What's left for you?" the companion wondered. "You're getting your degree this spring."

"But if I come back," Howard replied, "they pay for my first year of graduate school."

Howard then laughed, thinking he had all the bases covered. It turned out that he knew—everyone knew—that the 1991 Heisman recipient wouldn't be on hand for an encore in 1992.

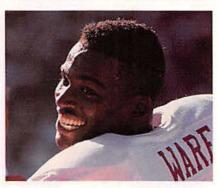
"I think there's nothing else I could do as far as individual accomplishments would be concerned," Howard said in January while disclosing his decision to leave Michigan.

As much as he wanted him back, even Wolverines Coach Gary Moeller conceded it would have been foolish for his star player not to turn pro.

There isn't much concern for players of Howard's stature. It's obvious they will get drafted and receive the big money. Howard, in fact, was the fourth player taken overall in the '92 NFL draft, going to the Washington Redskins.

Safety Mark Carrier fell into that same "certain" category two years ago. He bypassed his senior year at Southern California and, confident he would be a reasonably high pick, declared for the NFL draft.

"It was a very tough decision," Carrier recalled. "But I had a feeling that I



Andre Ware: 30 passes in two pro seasons.

was one of the top defensive backs. I had information. I had a gut feeling it would work out."

It did. The Bears selected him sixth in the first round, and Carrier was elected to the Pro Bowl in his first two seasons.

Carrier acknowledges that had he known he wouldn't be a high draft pick, he would have stayed in school to better his position.

"It's a risk," Carrier said. "There aren't any guarantees."

* * *

Major Harris and Braxston Banks learned the hard way about this noguarantee business.

At West Virginia, Harris was the cover-boy quarterback who almost led the Mountaineers to the national title in 1988. He had the moves and was a proven winner.

After his junior year in 1989, Harris thought he was ready. He declared for the NFL draft.

"Coach (Don) Nehlen advised me that another year wouldn't have hurt," Harris said. "But I got to the point where I had accomplished everything I wanted. We were losing the majority of our players. I didn't want to be left alone."

Harris thought he would be a marketable commodity. The pros didn't. Shortly after he declared, Harris began to hear rumors that scouts thought he lacked an NFL-quality passing arm.

The rumor became reality when he wasn't drafted until the middle of the 12th and last round by the Los Angeles Raiders. Like most last-round selections, Harris, the 317th of 331 players drafted, never played in the NFL. He went to the Canadian Football League for a couple years and recently played in the Arena Football League.

However, if he had to do it over again, Harris says he would follow the same path.

"Who's to say that if I had come back for another year that I still wouldn't have gotten drafted in the 12th round?" Harris said. "I don't feel like I got a chance, but I stand by my decision. I have no regrets."

Banks does. In 1988, he was a fullback who picked up key yardage in Notre Dame's run to the national title. He was a prospect. Or so it seemed.

Then, in 1989, Banks injured his knee and sat out the season, which meant he could have returned to the Fighting Irish for the 1990 season.

But Banks wanted more.

"I didn't want to play another year of college," he said. "I wanted to play football and get paid for it. That's what it boils down to for most folks."

Besides, Banks was hearing from agents that the pros definitely were interested—that he'd be picked in the

Continued

Phone never did ring: Fullback Braxston Banks, undrafted in 1990, believes he put his faith in too many agents.



middle rounds, maybe even earlier. It all looked good until draft day.

The first couple rounds came and went, and many running backs were taken. Banks' telephone, though, didn't ring. In fact, it never did.

Banks wasn't picked.

"I was in shock," he said. "I didn't have enough knowledge. I put my faith in too many agents whom I shouldn't have. I got caught in the middle, and I lost."

Banks said he found himself "in limbo." He couldn't play pro ball and he couldn't return to school—although he tried to regain his eligibility with a lawsuit. The legal maneuvering failed.

However, this story does have a bright side. Banks did receive his degree, and he has landed a job with the NFL Players Association.

Still, Banks would rather be on the field than in the office.

"Sure, I'd like to have it back," Banks said. "But maybe other players learned from me. I know. I like to consider myself somewhat of an expert."

* * *

The room for the press conference was packed. On this late-January day, Rick Mirer finally was going to reveal his intentions.

Of all the underclassmen who could apply for the draft in 1992, Mirer had been the subject of the most speculation. If he stayed at Notre Dame, the quarterback conceivably could lead the Irish to a national title. Getting a championship ring has been Mirer's major goal.

However, as early as last October, reports started to circulate that Mirer would be a top-five pick if he came out. He had the size (6-foot-3, 212 pounds), mobility and arm. The pros like those sort of things.

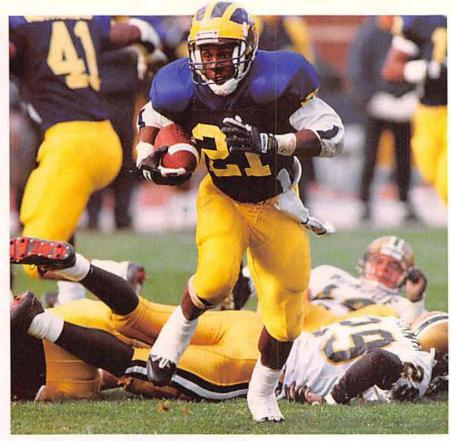
Mirer then added to the speculation by acknowledging that he was keeping all his options open.

"I had to hear what people were saying," Mirer said. "There were a lot of days I went back and forth. I tried to block it out of my mind, but I never really did."

Rick's father, a bank executive, tried to ease the pressure on his son by gathering all the information for him. All agent inquiries were referred to Ken Mirer.

The elder Mirer contacted as many sources as he could. He called agents, scouts and player-personnel directors.

"They all thought he would go high in the draft," he said. "It wasn't just from one or two people, but it was from many





Gut feeling: Information and intuition figured into Mark Carrier's decision to leave Southern Cal early.

people. But the problem was there were no assurances. That's the fallacy of the system. You're not allowed to test the market. How do you know until you know?"

Ken Mirer said he probably felt more pressure than his son did. Rick was down emotionally after Notre Dame finished the regular season by losing two of its last three games. However, Ken noticed that his son's spirits rose markedly after Notre Dame's upset victory over Florida in the Sugar Bowl.

Me worry? Non-seniors of the stature of Desmond Howard (above) obviously will be drafted and receive fat contracts.

"I think that was an important factor in rekindling the fire in Rick for college football," Ken said. "If the outcome had been different, he might have decided to do something else."

After the Sugar Bowl, Rick went to Mexico for vacation. When he returned, his father asked what he was thinking.

"He said, 'About what?' " Ken said. "That was a sign to me that he was staying."

Indeed, Mirer had made up his mind to return for his senior season. Why? Well, first there's this business of winning a national championship. He's sincere about that.

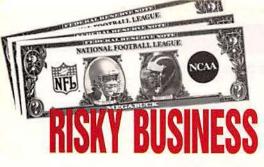
But the reasons went deeper.

"It's more than a four-year decision. It's my career," Mirer said. "I wasn't in any hurry. I think there's a lot I can learn from playing here another year. It couldn't hurt.

"It comes down to what you want and what makes you happy. I wasn't willing to give this away yet."

Mirer then added with a laugh, "Besides, I'm not in any hurry to start paying taxes."

Rick Mirer's decision made Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz one happy man. With his starting quarterback returning, Holtz has a national championship contender for '92. Without him, Notre Dame probably would be just another team.



Clearly, the comings-and-goings of the underclassmen dramatically alter the collegiate playing field for the next fall. For instance, UCLA was rocked when quarterback Tommy Maddox, with two years of eligibility remaining, decided he would turn pro in '92. With Maddox, a first-round choice of the Denver Broncos, on hand, the Bruins might have given Washington a run for the Pacific-10 Conference crown.

Washington, of course, has problems of its own because of the departure of Emtman (who was drafted No. 1 overall by the Indianapolis Colts). Florida State lost two of its best players in Buckley (a first-round selection of the Green Bay Packers) and Lee (a second-round choice of the San Francisco 49ers), and Michigan just might have been able to find a spot for Howard.

Then there are Tennessee and Southern California. Tennessee is hurting over the loss of Pickens (taken in round two by the Cincinnati Bengals), and Southern California is now without tailback Mazio Royster, who gambled and lost big. While Royster could still turn out to be a good pro, he definitely came

out on the short end in terms of a fat rookie contract. He wasn't selected until the 11th round and was the 284th player taken overall.

"It changes a lot of what you do, and what your opponents are going to do," Syracuse Coach Paul Pasqualoni said of the draft/underclassmen situation. "The coaches have a lot riding on this."

In the no-surprise department, the vast majority of coaches aren't pleased that juniors have the freedom to leave their college nests. Obviously, they prefer the pre-Barry Sanders days.

Back then, the coaches knew they were going to have their players for four years. Now, it's hardly a given.

For instance, take San Diego State tailback Marshall Faulk. He had a spectacular freshman year in 1991, rushing for 1,429 yards. Ideally, Aztecs Coach Al Luginbill could depend on three more years with Faulk in his backfield.

Luginbill, though, knows that if Faulk has another exceptional year, he might try to buck the system and turn pro after his sophomore season.

"I'll feel fortunate for the amount of time I have him," Luginbill said. "I don't know what's going to happen down the line. If there's a million dollars out there, it's difficult for him not to take it."

The prospect of their top players leaving early doesn't hearten Luginbill and other coaches. Their concern is on several fronts.

First and maybe foremost, the coaches worry about their players making the right decisions. Former pro coach-

es Gene Stallings (now at Alabama) and John Mackovic (Texas) believe that the majority of players are better off playing their senior seasons.

"It's a big transition from college to pros," said Mackovic, one-time coach of the Kansas City Chiefs. "The majority of the players aren't ready as juniors. If they do come out, they come in behind. As hard as they try, very often they never make it up."

"I'm not sure juniors are physically ready to handle the NFL," said Stallings, former coach of the St. Louis and Phoenix Cardinals. "Pro football will be there when they're seniors."

Pasqualoni tried to make that point to Syracuse fullback Rob Carpenter in 1991. Carpenter, though, didn't listen. He was drafted in the fourth round by the Cincinnati Bengals and eventually cut loose. He now is property of the New York Jets.

"I couldn't convince him to stay," Pasqualoni said. "I tried to convince him to stay and get his degree, and give him the chance to enhance his standing. He needed another year to mature. I don't know if kids have the full picture of how tough it is."

Yet for all the concern about the players—not to mention the time spent nurturing them along as freshmen and sophomores—the coaches obviously have vested interests. Each is looking out for No. 1—himself. After all, even if the star junior departs, the pressure on the coach to win remains. As a result, the NFL is increasingly perceived as a predator preying on college talent.

"The coaches are concerned," Luginbill said. "Where is it going to stop? Are they going to start drafting kids out of high school? With the way it is now, you can't run the program with any consistency. You don't know who's going to come out and who's going to come back. It's not a good situation."

Like it or not, the colleges are stuck

with the current setup. Braxston Banks, speaking as one who has been there, says that if a player has any doubt about coming out, "There's no reason to do it."

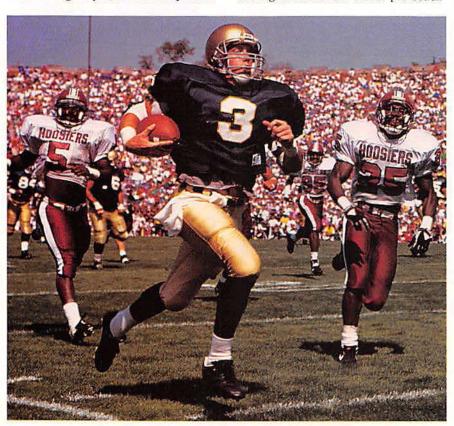
Lamar Thomas had his doubts.

"If I knew I would go in the first round, it might have been different," Thomas said. "I came to college to get my education. Football doesn't last forever."

Johnny Mitchell, though, was certain he had made the right decision and the Jets went a long way toward validating that belief. Regardless of where he was picked, Mitchell was convinced he'd make it in the pros.

"I know how good I am," Mitchell said. "I'm not taking a risk. You have to be on the same page as Johnny Mitchell. The best things for Johnny Mitchell are yet to come."

For Mitchell, just like Barry Sanders, Emmitt Smith, Todd Marinovich, Desmond Howard, Major Harris and Braxston Banks, only time will tell.



"Fallacy of the system": Unable to test the market in terms of discovering his draft potential, quarterback Rick Mirer decided to return to Notre Dame this fall.

You can call him Gene or maybe even 'Bebes,' but Tide's Stallings now answers to 'winner,' too

By CHARLES HOLLIS Birmingham News

n the summer, during those few precious vacation days between spring and fall practice, Alabama Coach Gene Stallings becomes "Bebes" Stallings, the Texas cattle rancher.

As soon as the last of his coaching camps has finished in mid-June, the 56-year-old Stallings

rounds up his family, jumps behind the wheel of his Cadillac (he always drives a Cadillac) and makes a beeline from Tuscaloosa, Ala., to Paris, Tex., and his 600-acre ranch. Paris, located in the northeast corner of Texas about 18 miles south of the Oklahoma border, is his home.

"When it's time to leave coaching—and I'm not ready to get out anytime soon—Paris is where I'll go and where I'll be buried," said Stallings, who is entering his third season at Alabama. "I love ranching. I love the land. I love working the land. I love having good cows, good horses. I love having good grass. I love everything about ranch life. I guess it's the cowboy in me."

In Paris, everybody knows Stallings as "Bebes," not as Gene or Coach. "I was named after my father, Gene Sr., and they called him Big Gene and me Baby Gene," Stallings said. "My brother, Jimmy, could never say Baby Gene. He'd say, 'Bee-bee Gene.' That's how I got the name Bebes."

In Tuscaloosa, people are starting to call him a winner. Indeed, these are

Legacy: Working in the lingering shadow cast by Bear Bryant and his trademark houndstooth-check hat, Gene Stallings says he's comfortable in Tuscaloosa.

good times for Stallings. The best. He had always enjoyed a good life with a family that is close and a ranch that he can cowboy on, but a piece of the puzzle was missing. He wanted to prove once and for all that he was a winner.

Proving he is a winner has been difficult. The 1967 Texas A&M squad he coached finished 8-4, won the Southwest Conference title and beat Alabama in the Cotton Bowl. But that was his only winning season at his alma mater, where he posted a 27-45-1 sevenyear mark from 1965 through '71. In fact, it was the only winning season he had—period—until he arrived in Tuscaloosa in 1990.

After he left Texas A&M, he served as a defensive backfield coach with the Dallas Cowboys for 14 years (1972-85). Stallings then coached the St. Louis/Phoenix Cardinals for almost four years. He was dismissed with six games left in the '89 season, at which point he had a 23-34-1 career National Football League mark.

When Stallings replaced Bill Curry as the Crimson Tide's coach in 1990, he suddenly found himself at a place that gave him his first real chance to prove himself as a head coach. A place he knew a lot about and, more important, a place that has embraced Stallings and given him a chance to prove he is a winner.

During the interview process for the Alabama job at Stallings' ranch, Crimson Tide Athletic Director Cecil (Hootie) Ingram said it was clear to him that Stallings was his man. "It just felt right," Ingram said. "Everything he said, everything he stood for, his background—it all fit."

Curry never seemed to fit in at Alabama. He was a Georgia Tech man, an outsider. Stallings was Alabama. He didn't go to Alabama, but he played for legendary coach Paul (Bear) Bryant at Texas A&M from 1954 through '56 and worked for him as a graduate assistant coach in 1957. When Bryant got the Alabama job in 1958, Stallings joined him as a full-time assistant coach until taking over the Texas A&M program in 1965. Those who knew Bryant knew Stallings was one of the Bear's favorite players and assistants.

So if Stallings was good enough for Bryant, who won six national championships for the Crimson Tide, then he was good enough for Alabama. It seems to be the perfect marriage.

"I don't know how people perceive me, but I do know you've got to prove yourself every day," Stallings said. "I want to be a consistent winner, something I haven't been when you look back over my career. Probably for the first time in my career, I have an opportunity to prove I can win consistently.

"I was 29 years old when I got the head job at Texas A&M, and it was an all-male school and big into ROTC. The next thing I know we're in Vietnam and, well, it just didn't work out."

In St. Louis and Phoenix, he didn't get along with Owner Bill Bidwill, who believed the front office knew more about drafting players than the head coach. "He didn't believe the head coach should have a say in a lot of things," added Stallings, who said he preferred not to elaborate on his Cardinal days.

Three games into his Alabama days, Stallings appeared to be in for another rough ride. The Crimson Tide lost its first three games in 1990 by a total of eight points, and Alabama people started to get nervous. It got them wondering if a coach with only one winning season on his resume could carry on the Bryant tradition. But then Stallings started winning at a clip reminiscent of the Bear, going 7-1 over the final eight games to earn a trip to the Fiesta Bowl, where Alabama lost to Louisville, 34-7, and finished with a respectable 7-5 record.

Last year's team went 11-1 and defeated Colorado, 30-25, in the Blockbuster Bowl, ranking fifth in THE SPORTING NEWS, Associated Press and

"He is rare in a lot of ways.
He is a football coach, totally
dedicated to the game. He
expects the best out of his
people because that's what
he gives them. But he is just
as dedicated
to his family
and being a
Christian."

—TOM

LANDRY

USA Today/CNN final polls. Its only loss was to Southeastern Conference champion Florida. Since his 0-3 start in '90, Stallings has won 18 of his last 21 games. Almost more important than his impressive .857 winning percentage in that span is the fact that two of those wins have come against archrival Auburn, which had become the football power in the state during Curry's tenure at Alabama.

Alabama fans' biggest gripe with Curry was his inability to beat Pat Dye's Tigers. It was bad enough that he was an outsider, but failing to beat Auburn—he was 0-3 at Alabama and 0-7 at Georgia Tech against the Tigers—was more than 'Bama fans could stomach. So, Curry left for Kentucky, where he enters his third year at the helm.

Now the Tide faithful are hoping that Stallings stays. Alabama had been embroiled in controversy under Ray Perkins (who succeeded Bryant in 1983) and Curry, but everything seems to be going right under Stallings. He has a two-year winning streak against Auburn, which could be facing more trou-

ble in the wake of allegations that Tiger players received benefits that violate NCAA rules. He has 16 starters returning this fall, including sophomore wide receiver/kick-return specialist David Palmer, perhaps Alabama's most exciting player since Joe Namath. He has restored the program's winning tradition and given it much-needed stability. In short, he has started to roll back the clock to the days when the Crimson Tide ruled the state and was a national power. Back to the days of Bear Bryant.

"I think we're headed in that direction, but I think we're probably another year or two away from really being in a position to play for the national championship," Stallings said.

Stallings knows what is expected of him, but he knew that when he took the job. "I was here when Coach Bryant brought the program back," he said. "I know how Alabama people feel about Coach Bryant. I know how I feel about Coach Bryant. I know how much Alabama people want to win. That's part of the legacy Coach Bryant left. One thing about Alabama people: They love Coach Bryant and they'll tolerate the rest of us as long as we win ball games."

Stallings is quick to point out that he is no Bear Bryant. "I realize I'm going to be judged against the very best, but I'm not Coach Bryant and I've never pretended I was. I realize there is pressure to be successful here. But I took the job because I wanted to be here—because I feel comfortable here.

"There are two reasons why coaches leave for other jobs: for more money or because the pressure got to be too great. Well, I'm not in coaching for the money. I'm in it because I'm a football man. If I leave Alabama, it won't be for another job. And if the job gets to a point it affects my life and family, that's another story."

Stallings may not be Bryant, but he is Alabama and he is from the Bryant school of blocking, tackling, toughness and discipline. When you hear Stallings talk football in his deep Texas drawl, you almost smell the Bear's Chesterfield cigarettes and see his houndstooth check hat.

Dude Hennessey, a longtime assistant on Bryant's staff, said an incident in the 1963 season, when Stallings and Hennessey were assistants at Alabama, illustrates the similarities between Stallings and the Bear. The episode began when Namath was spotted partying with friends the weekend before Alabama's regular-season finale against Miami (Fla.).

Bryant later received a call from a woman who said she saw Namath "take a swig of beer," Hennessey recalled. "In those days, something as little as a taste of beer violated team rules. And you didn't want to break training."

Bryant had to decide whether to suspend Namath for the Tide's Sugar Bowl

OF F

bout against undefeated Mississippi. In his 1974 autobiography, "Bear—The Hard Life and Good Times of Alabama's Coach," Bryant recalled how he ultimately reached his decision.

"I went back and called my coaches together . . . and asked if they had an opinion," Bryant began. "By today's standards what Joe did was nothing, but I believe if you have rules, you abide by them. You can't make exceptions. Every darn one of my coaches said let's do something to save him. Except one: Bebes Stallings."

Stallings told Bryant, "If it had been me, you would have fired me, wouldn't you?" When Bryant agreed, Stallings replied, "Well, let him go."

"I can't speak for the other coaches, but I wanted to beat Ole Miss real bad," Hennessey said. "But Bebes didn't bat an eye when Coach Bryant polled all of us. He was always like that—tough and ready to make a decision."

So Namath, who returned the following season to lead the Crimson Tide to the national championship, was booted off the team. But Alabama still beat Mississippi, 12-7, in the Sugar Bowl.

Time hasn't changed Stallings all that much. In many ways, he is the same principled man he was under Bryant. If anything, spending eight years working with Bryant and 14 years as an assistant to former Cowboys coach Tom Landry has broadened his knowledge of the game and opened his mind to a different athlete today.

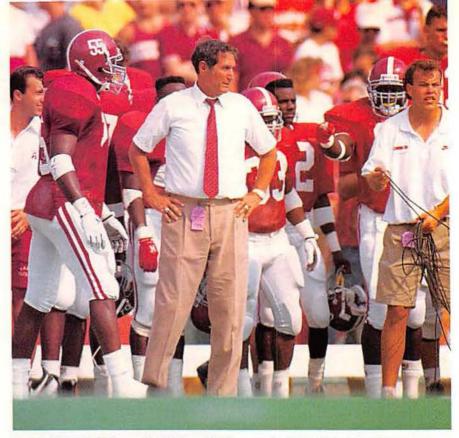
Stallings considers Bryant and Landry two of football's greatest coaches. "I was fortunate to work with each one and learn from each one," he said. "You can't have an association with men like Coach Bryant and Coach Landry and not be influenced. Each one approached football differently.

"Coach Bryant was more of a peopletype coach. When Coach Bryant called a play, everyone wanted it to work. It seemed like the right play, and the players busted their tail to make it right.

"With Coach Landry, you can't imagine how he would research every play. When he called a play, it was always the right play to call against the defense they (the opponents) were running. I learned about toughness from Coach Bryant. From Coach Landry, I learned about preparation. But I'm probably a little softer than Coach Bryant and probably not as rigid as Coach Landry."

Landry said Stallings had few peers as an NFL secondary coach during his 14 years in Dallas. "Just a great teacher and one of the best in the business at breaking down an offense and finding the weaknesses," he said.

Landry also remembers that Stall-



An apt student: Alabama Coach Gene Stallings says he learned about toughness as an assistant to Bear Bryant and about preparation while serving under Tom Landry.

ings stood for the right things in life. "He is rare in a lot of ways," Landry said. "He is a football coach, totally dedicated to the game. He expects the best out of his people because that's what he gives them. But he is just as dedicated to his family and being a Christian."

Stallings and his wife, Ruth Ann, have five children. His only son, Johnny, was born with Down's syndrome, a congenital disorder characterized by mental retardation and a short life span.

Six years ago, when Stallings coached the Cardinals, he and Johnny were featured in a United Way public-service announcement. After it aired during several NFL national telecasts, Johnny became an overnight star. Stallings proudly says his son is the second-most famous Down's syndrome person in the world behind Chris Burke, a star on the TV show "Life Goes On."

"You can't be around Johnny and not be touched by his personality and love," Stallings said.

As much as Bryant and Landry have influenced his coaching career, Stallings said, Johnny has influenced his life even more. It has been a positive experience, although he hardly could have realized that when the doctor first informed him that he thought his baby boy had Down's syndrome. His immediate reaction: He fainted.

"When I woke up, the nurses were standing over me and putting smelling salts in front of me," Stallings related. "The furthest thing from my mind was having a child that was deformed. I was just shocked it had happened to me. You never think something like that can happen to you. Ruth Ann and me cried a bushel of tears."

Doctors told the family that Johnny probably would die before age 4. When Johnny reached his fifth birthday, the doctors said Johnny might live another 10 to 11 years. Johnny celebrated his 30th birthday June 11.

"The doctors have stopped making predictions," Stallings said. "Something I thought would be the worst time in my life became the best thing that ever happened to me."

During the football season, Johnny seldom misses a practice. In the off-season, father and son fish and hunt together, ride horses on the ranch together and "generally just spend as much time together as we can," Stallings said.

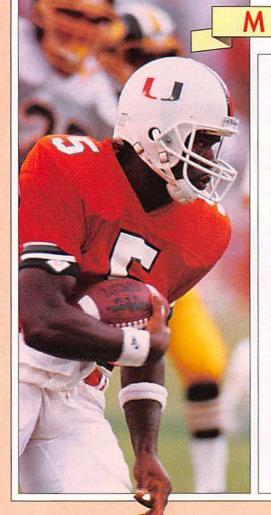
"Johnny loves to fish," he added. "He is very patient. He also likes to ride horses. And he really likes to drive the golf cart we keep at the ranch. He'll go all over the place in that thing. Johnny has made me much more compassionate, more understanding, more tolerant of people.

"I can recognize the guy that doesn't have the ability, the guy that just isn't good enough to play. I feel for that particular person more than I used to."

Sometimes when Stallings talks about his son and what he means to the family, his voice softens. After a loss, he can always count on Johnny coming up and telling him, "You'll get 'em the next time, Pop."

Just hearing that, Stallings said, puts everything into perspective. ■

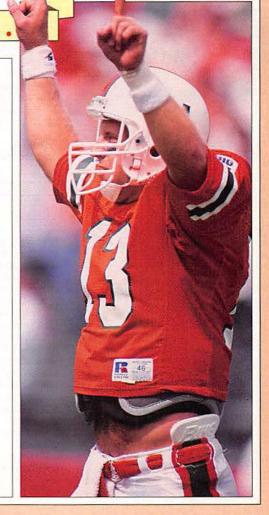




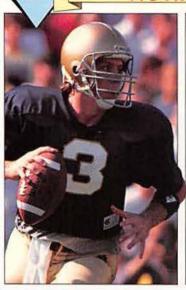
The Hurricanes have talent, experience and Coach Dennis Erickson, who has made this team his without showing a stitch of transition. Quarterback Gino Torretta did something Vinny Testaverde and Steve Walsh couldn't: He won a national title without being taken seriously. Hey, Torretta is 15-1 as a starter. Split end Horace Copeland and flanker Lamar Thomas overshadow gifted wide receiver Kevin Williams. Veteran linebackers Micheal Barrow, Darrin Smith and Jessie Armstead should help a young secondary. Miami's schedule-lowa, Florida State and Penn State are included-may harm its No. 1 hopes.

Wide receiver Kevin Williams

> Quarterback Gino Torretta



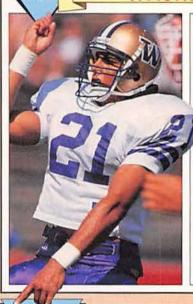
NOTRE DAME



Where else to take a leap of faith than beneath the Golden Dome? New coordinators Tom Clements (offense) and Rick Minter (defense) will be in the spotlight. Clements, the former Fighting Irish and Canadian Football League standout, has a two-year starter in quarterback Rick Mirer. But much depends on Coach Lou Holtz's tailback search. There is a lot of experience on the defensive front. though not much at stopping anyone. If Minter succeeds, so will the Irish.

Quarterback Rick Mirer

WASHINGTON



The Huskies have lost one Pac-10 game in the '90s. They have two Rose Bowl MVPs at quarterback. They don't play UCLA for the second straight year and get Nebraska, Cal, USC and Stanford in Seattle. Quarterback Billy Joe Hobert has a year (and Mark Brunell) behind him. Tailbacks Beno Bryant, Jay Barry and Napoleon Kaufman again should total 2,000 yards. Linebacker Dave Hoffmann emerges from Steve Emtman's shadow to pace a still-strong defense.

Safety Shane Pahukoa

FLORIDA STATE



The wounds of last year's finish have healed. Bobby Bowden's defense, which unlike the offense got stronger as last year progressed, will take the lead again. Junior linebacker Marvin Jones is the brightest of several Seminole stars. Little remains of last season's offense. Basketball point guard Charlie Ward will have to perform well at quarterback. The Seminoles will play at Clemson, North Carolina State, Miami (Fla.) and Georgia Tech in a space of six weeks.

Tailback Sean Jackson

MICHIGAN



How good are the Wolverines without Desmond Howard? Elvis Grbac has more starting experience (23-5 record) than any Top 25 quarterback, and the offense returns largely intact. Ricky Powers, Jesse Johnson and Tyrone Wheatley rushed for 2,379 vards and 24 TDs in '91. Center Steve Everitt might be Michigan's next great lineman. The defense again will be sturdy, with tackle Chris Hutchinson ruling the line and linebacker Steve Morrison the middle.

Tailback Jesse Johnson

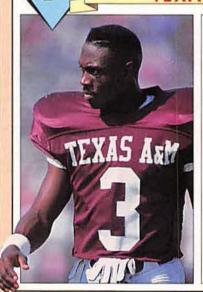
FLORIDA



If the injury gods disguise their lack of depth, the Gators again will dominate the Southeastern Conference. With little experience in front of him, quarterback Shane Matthews may have to scramble more than usual. Likewise for running back Errict Rhett. The defense and punter Shayne Edge could give the offense time to mature. Linebacker Carlton Miles is first-rate. The secondary, led by Will White, might not have the luxury of rushing the passer on every play.

Running back Errict Rhett

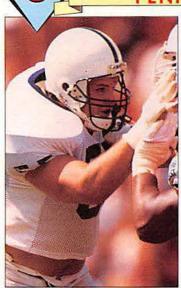
TEXAS A&M



The Aggies will determine if a national title can be won without a top-of-the-line quarterback. No one among four spring candidates emerged as a replacement for Bucky Richardson. Senior Kent Petty has Cotton Bowl experience. Sophomore tailback Greg Hill (1,216 yards) will be depended upon. The defense, despite the loss of NFL firstround draft picks Quentin Coryatt and Kevin Smith, will be strong again. Sophomore end Sam Adams is a future first-rounder.

Cornerback Derrick Frazier

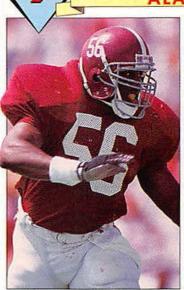
PENN STAT



Defense will have to carry the Nittany Lions through the early season. Four-year quarterback starter Tony Sacca has departed, taking with him most of the offensive line. Sophomore Kerry Collins takes over the offense. He has the arm to find senior wide receiver O.J. McDuffie, if not yet the head. The defense, too, has lost its leaders. Tackles Lou Benfatti and Tyoka Jackson will have to anchor the middle until some inside linebackers appear. The rest of the defense appears fine.

Defensive tackle Lou Benfatti

ALABAMA



Having proven that few injuries and an airtight defense can net a Top 10 finish, the Crimson Tide would like to beef up its offense. If sophomore quarterback Jay Barker plays as well as he did in the Blockbuster Bowl and sophomore receiver/returner David Palmer has a big year, Alabama will have no problem winning the SEC's Western Division. Led by senior linebacker Antonio London, the defense can carry the Tide again.

Linebacker Derrick Oden

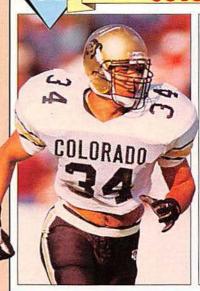
IOWA



The Hawkeyes are hardly pink-cheeked-pink, after all, is only for the visiting locker room at Kinnick Stadium. Senior quarterback Jim Hartlieb, brother of Chuck, must live up to the family name for a veteran-stocked lowa team to contend for the Big Ten title. The lone worry on defense is the secondary, where only cornerback Scott Plate returns. The schedule leaves little time to learn: lowa has N.C. State, Miami (Fla.), Colorado and Michigan among its first five games.

Tight end Alan Cross

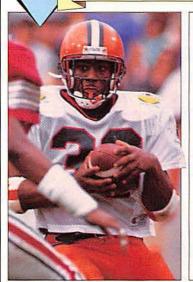
COLORADO



Coach Bill McCartney junked the Buffaloes' I-bone offense that led them to a share of the 1990 national crown and a place atop the Big Eight standings for three straight years. The new one-back offense may ease the pressure on Darian Hagan's successor at quarterback. That likely will be junior Vance Joseph or sophomore Kordell Stewart. A veteran line will provide time to throw. With eight defensive starters returning, Colorado won't need to score much.

Linebacker Chad Brown

SYRACUSE



Scoring won't be a problem for the Orangemen. On any other team, quarterback Marvin Graves, tight end Chris Gedney and wide receiver Shelby Hill would get attention. Any other team doesn't have Qadry Ismail, the receiver/returner who bettered brother Rocket's Notre Dame statistics last year. A healthy Dan Conley at linebacker will ripen an otherwise green defense. The biggest worry, the secondary, has all fall to prepare for November 21 opponent Miami (Fla.).

Running back David Walker

NEBRASKA



This is a typical Cornhusker team: experienced offensive line, bevy of running backs, strong defense up the middle and one tough non-league game (at Washington). The biggest question Coach Tom Osborne must answer (besides why Nebraska fails in big games) is who will replace standout quarterback Keithen McCant. The defense, which learned on the job in '91, is led by linebackers Mike Anderson and Travis Hill. No one figures to treat Nebraska rudely.

Running back Calvin Jones

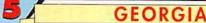
OKLAHOMA

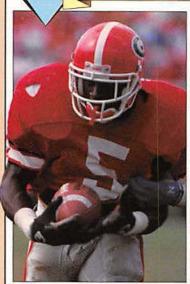
Almost unbelievably, the Sooners have gone five years without a Big Eight title. The Sooners need to prove that their Gator Bowl romp over Virginia showcased the real Oklahoma. Try doing that with only

three returning starters on defense and only one offensive lineman with more than one letter. Quarterback Cale Gundy is due for a breakthrough year and has talented backfield mates. Southern Cal, Texas and Colorado are among the

Fullback Kenyon Rasheed

Sooners' first six foes.





Coach Ray Goff has let young players make mistakes and grow. Eight Bulldog starters return on offense. Sophomore quarterback Eric Zeier and junior scatback Garrison Hearst may be the most exciting backfield pair in the nation. A veteran line, powered by tackles Bernard Williams and Alec Millen, will give them time and space in which to operate. Six junior college players are expected to help soon. It may be a year early, but watch out for Goff's maturing Dawgs.

Running back **Garrison Hearst**

CLEMSON



It's a good thing that Clemson churns out blockers like the campus dairy churns out ice cream. Stacy Seegars, a 320-pound quard for Ken Hatfield's team, is the only returning starter on the offensive line. Junior Richard Moncrief, the replacement for quarterback DeChane Cameron, is a talented option operative-which isn't good news for All-Atlantic Coast Conference split end Terry Smith. Senior free safety Robert O'Neal, a real gem, heads up a crack defense.

Tailback Rodney Blunt

UCLA



Tommy Maddox has gone to the pros but, in a major surprise, the Bruins will play the season anyway. The fact is, UCLA will challenge for the Pacific-10 title because of its defense. Cornerback Carlton Gray and free safety Othello Henderson lead the league's best secondary and are helped by pass rusher Mike Chalenski. The offense is strong everywhere except quarterback. An experienced line will give Maddox's replacement time to learn.

Split end Sean LaChapelle

TENNESSEE



The nucleus of the three best teams of Johnny Majors' regime has departed. Gone are players instrumental in winning two SEC titles and building a 29-6-2 record. Among the missing are five NFL first-round draft picks. Sophomore quarterback Heath Shuler will get a chance to live up to his high school clippings. Tailbacks James Stewart and Aaron Hayden combined for 1,643 yards rushing and 15 touchdowns as freshmen. The defense is minus its top 10 tacklers of '91.

Wide receiver J.J. McCleskey

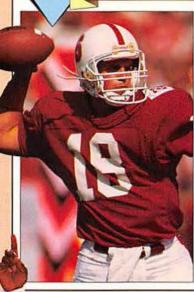
GEORGIA TECH



New Coach Bill Lewis notwithstanding, the nation may have seen the 1992 Yellow Jackets in their Aloha Bowl victory over Stanford. Georgia Tech won, 18-17, with defense and special teams, its strengths in '92. Oh, the offense has quarterback Shawn Jones and skilled running backs in Jimy Lincoln and William Bell, but all five linemen must be replaced. Defensive tackle Coleman Rudolph has All-America ability, and cornerback Curley Day is excellent.

Running back William Bell

STANFORD



Of course, the regular season is a mere formality before Bill Walsh takes the Cardinal to the Rose Bowl. Stanford's foes-including Texas A&M, Notre Dame, UCLA and Washington-are bent on proving Walsh is no genius. While the offense lost two top 10 draft picks, nearly everyone else returns, including quarterback Steve Stenstrom (seven starts, 15 TD passes) and all but one starter on a fast-improving defense. Linebacker Ron George (eight sacks) is a force.

Quarterback Steve Stenstrom

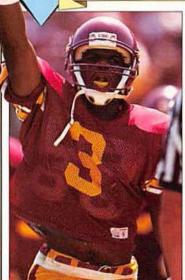
BRIGHAM YOUNG



Ty Detmer has gone and taken the NCAA record book with him. The problem is that the offensive line left. too. With any blocking at all, the experienced wide receivers, led by Micah Matsuzaki and Eric Drage. will make new quarterback Steve Clements, Ryan Hancock or John Walsh look good. That will make Coach LaVell Edwards look smart one more time. The truth is, if BYU doesn't find some blockers, no amount of quarterback legacy will

Tight end Byron Rex

22 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



Inexperience, injuries and a fearsome schedule led to Southern Cal's worst record (3-8) in three decades. The key to the Trojans' 100th season is junior quarterback Reggie Perry. Told to sink or swim last season, Perry almost needed the Coast Guard. A total of 254 yards rushing and 1,574 yards passing speak to his potential, though. Sophomore Tony Boselli is the Trojans' next great offensive lineman. The defense is battle-scarred-it yielded 387 yards per game in '91.

Flanker Curtis Conway

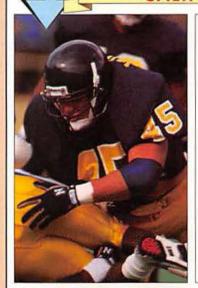
TEXAS



John Mackovic and corporate-like sophistication have replaced David McWilliams and folksiness. How efficient the Longhorns have become will be evident early in games against Mississippi State and Syracuse. Mackovic's offensive mind is desperately needed in Austin. Quarterback Peter Gardere and rusher Butch Hadnot both must return to 1990 form. The Longhorns' secondary. led by strong safety Lance Gunn, is the SWC's best. But the line must be rebuilt.

Safety Lance Gunn

CALIFORNIA



Will Cal magic-last-minute wins over Arizona and UCLA set the tone for the Golden Bears' big season last year-return in '92? The Bears have a new coach in Keith Gilbertson, who revived Washington's offense in the late 1980s. Tailback Russell White gained 1,177 yards in '91 despite being hobbled for three games. Only two offensive linemen return, however, and quarterback Mike Pawlawski, who knew how to win, is gone. The defense is solid.

Linebacker Jerrott Willard

VIRGINIA



If the Cavaliers have finished digging Oklahoma's cleats out of their chests after the Gator Bowl, they will contend for the ACC title. Senior Bobby Goodman is the leader to replace quarterback Matt Blundin. Goodman has a lot of help. from senior tailback Terry Kirby to a veteran line and four experienced receivers. On defense, the Cavaliers must find a couple of tackles. But end Chris Slade is one of the nation's best. The linebackers and secondary are strong.

Tailback Terry Kirby

WATCH 0 **ARIZONA STATE**

Bruce Snyder is greeted by an experienced squad. If injuries stop plaguing the Sun Devils, watch out.

AUBURN

The Tigers attempt to stop a two-year slide. Linebackers James Willis and Bennie Pierce lead the effort.

BAYLOR

Quarterback J.J. Joe hopes to take the Bears even further than last year's 8-3 finish. The defense must be rebuilt.

LOUISIANA STATE

The Tigers will challenge Alabama in the SEC's Western Division with a veteran offense and stout defense.

MICHIGAN STATE

Here's a bet that the 3-8 record of 1991 was a blip. Tailback Tico Duckett has a veteran offensive line.



Baylor's J.J. Joe

MISSISSIPPI STATE

Jackie Sherrill won't sneak up on anyone this year. With 18 starters back, this team needs no introduction.

OHIO STATE

The Buckeyes need a quarterback despite going 8-3 in '91 without one. Linebacker Steve Tovar is a cut above.

PITTSBURGH

Quarterback Alex Van Pelt and tailback Curtis Martin lead a talented Panther

SAN DIEGO STATE

More of the same for the Aztecs: Tailback Marshall Faulk will help light up the scoreboard.

The Golden Hurricane will build on last season's 9-2 record. The defense must prop up a young offense.

DIDAT WARD

HEISMAN TROPHY

(Top player)

- SHANE MATTHEWS, QB, Florida
- 2. RICK MIRER, QB, Notre Dame
- MARSHALL FAULK, TB, San Diego State GINO TORRETTA, QB, Miami (Fla.) KEVIN WILLIAMS, WR/KR, Miami (Fla.)
- GLYN MILBURN, RB/KR, Stanford
- TREVOR COBB, RB, Rice
- 8. JEROME BETTIS, FB, Notre Dame 9. RUSSELL WHITE, TB, California 10. TERRY KIRBY, TB, Virginia

OUTLAND TROPH'

(Top interior lineman)

- 1. LINCOLN KENNEDY, OT, Washington
- 2. WILL SHIELDS, OG, Nebraska
- 3. AARON TAYLOR, OG, Notre Dame
- 4. STEVE EVERITT, C. Michigan
 5. JUSTIN HALL, OT, Notre Dame
 6. COLEMAN RUDOLPH, DT, Georgia Tech
 7. JEFF ZGONINA, NG, Purdue
 8. EVERETT LINDSAY, OT, Mississippi

- 9. MIKE DEVLIN, C, Iowa 10. MARK CAESAR, DT, Miami (Fla.)

LOMBARDI AWARD

(Top lineman linebacker)

- 1. RUSTY MEDEARIS, DE, Miami (Fla.)
- 2. LINCOLN KENNEDY, OT, Washington 3. ERIC CURRY, DE, Alabama
- 4. DEMETRIUS DuBOSE, LB, Notre Dame

- 4. DEME I HIUS DUBOSE, LB, Notre Dam 5. WILL SHIELDS, OG, Nebraska 6. DAVE HOFFMANN, LB, Washington 7. CHRIS SLADE, DE, Virginia 8. MICHEAL BARROW, LB, Miami (Fla.) 9. AARON TAYLOR, OG, Notre Dame 10. MARVIN JONES, LB, Florida State



Michigan State's Tico Duckett

DOAK WALKER AWARD

(Top junior or senior running back)

- JEROME BETTIS. Notre Dame
- 2. KEVIN WILLIAMS, UCLA
- TREVOR COBB, Rice
- GLYN MILBURN, Stanford RUSSELL WHITE, California
- RICKY POWERS, Michigan
- DEREK BROWN, Nebraska TICO DUCKETT, Michigan State
- 9. NATRONE MEANS, North Carolina 10. ESTRUS CRAYTON, Southern Cal

DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD

(Top quarterback)

- RICK MIRER, Notre Dame
- 2. SHANE MATTHEWS, Florida
- SHAWN JONES, Georgia Tech
- 4. ELVIS GRBAC, Michigan
- GINO TORRETTA, Miami (Fla.)
- TROY KOPP, Pacific
- 7. DREW BLEDSOE, Washington State
- 8, J.J. JOE, Baylor 9, BILLY JOE HOBERT, Washington 10, LEON CLAY, Texas Christian

BUTKUS AWARD

(Top linebacker)

- DAVE HOFFMANN, Washington
- 2. MICHEAL BARROW, Miami (Fla.) DEMETRIUS DuBOSE, Notre Dame
- . MARVIN JONES, Florida State . MARCUS BUCKLEY, Texas A&M

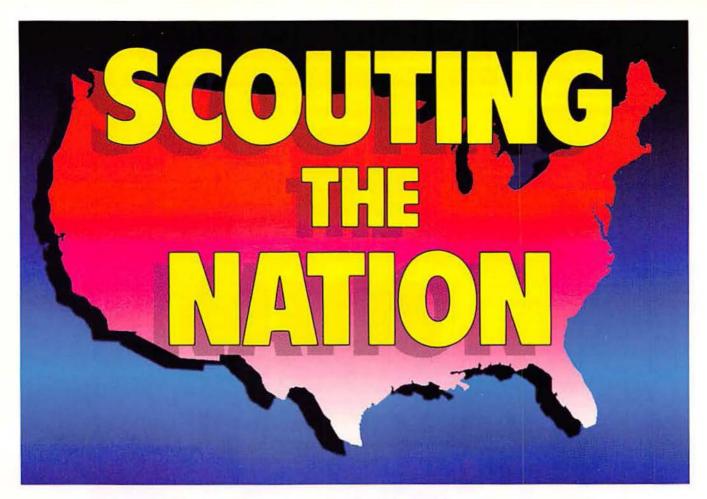
- MARCOS BUCKET, 1983
 MARCOS BUCKET, 1983
 GREG BIEKERT, Colorado
 RON GEORGE, Stanford
 STEVE TOVAR, Ohio State
- CHAD BROWN, Colorado

THORPE AWARD

(Top defensive back)

- GREG GRANDISON, S. East Carolina 2. ROBERT O'NEAL, S. Clemson
- 3. WILL WHITE, S. Florida

- 3. WILL WHILE, S. FIORGA
 4. RYAN MENEIL, CB. Miami (Fla.)
 5. TOM CARTER, CB, Notre Dame
 6. CARLTON GRAY, CB, UCLA
 7. WALTER BAILEY, CB, Washington
 8. LANCE GUNN, S. Texas
 9. CORWIN BROWN, S. Michigan
- 10. SHANE PAHUKOA, S, Washington



Lacking a 'big dance,' NCAA football waltzes toward title contest with a seven-bowl alliance

By DON BORST Tacoma News Tribune

whole new bowl game.
No, the NCAA doesn't have a national playoff tournament. But college football has an alliance among seven bowls, and the odds are now much better that one of them will match up the nation's top two ranked teams at the end of the regular season. The ultimate goal: a chance for one bowl game to produce a consensus na-

he college football postseason is a

tional champion.

"It's going to be a different mosaic all the way around," said Steve Hatchell, the Orange Bowl's executive director. "One of the advantages of the coalition is we can now wait before picking teams. Now that everybody has a place to go, we can afford to wait."

Well, almost everybody has a place to go. Seven top bowls—not including the Rose Bowl—have contracted with the Big Eight, Atlantic Coast, Big East and Southwest conferences to send their first- and second-place teams, with the Southeastern Conference for its league champion, with the Pacific-10 for its second-place team and with Notre

Dame. That's two teams apiece for the Orange, Sugar, Cotton and Fiesta bowls, plus one apiece for three other "mid-major" bowls (whose identities were scheduled to be revealed in June).

Under the plan, a team's finish in its league standings and the national polls will be the pivotal factor in determining its bowl destination. The beauty of this is that nothing will be etched in stone until the regular season ends. It therefore will eliminate many of the prearranged "handshake" deals that typically occur late in a season—and often are made to look bad when a team stumbles in its final few games.

While many longstanding agreements between certain leagues and bowls will not be affected—the Big Eight champion, for example, will continue to go to the Orange Bowl—it is hoped that with the bowls working in unison, better bowl matchups will re-

Ideally, the Nos. 1- and 2-ranked teams at the end of each season will face off in the Orange, Sugar, Cotton or Fiesta Bowl. If either the No. 1 or No. 2 team comes from the Big Ten or Pacific-10, however, the plan won't work, because those two leagues are committed to sending their champions

to the Rose Bowl. In fact, any independent (other than Notre Dame) or a member of the Western Athletic Conference holding down either top spot would spoil the show. And if teams from the Big Eight, Southwest and Southeast control the top two spots, the national championship game can't happen because those leagues are bound to their respective bowls and can't cross over.

So, the bowl alliance can't be assured of producing a consensus No. 1 team. But it certainly increases the odds.

Over the last 10 years, only three times did the top two ranked teams at the end of the regular season meet in a bowl game—the 1983 Sugar Bowl (No. 1 Georgia vs. No. 2 Penn State), the 1987 Fiesta Bowl (No. 1 Miami vs. No. 2 Penn State) and the 1988 Orange Bowl (No. 1 Oklahoma vs. No. 2 Miami). However, had the new system been in effect over that same period, four other matchups of No. 1 vs. No. 2 would have been possible (1985, 1988, 1989 and 1990).

Two years ago, for example, the issue of "Who's No. 1?"—Georgia Tech or Colorado—could have been settled easily at the Orange Bowl, with the Big Eight champ Buffaloes (10-1-1) playing the Yellow Jackets (10-0-1). Instead,

Georgia Tech crushed Nebraska, 45-21, at the Florida Citrus Bowl while Colorado nipped Notre Dame, 10-9, at the Orange Bowl. Result: a split decision.

That's what the alliance hopes to avoid.

TRYING TO DO WHAT DUKE DID

Miami (Fla.) has proven itself capable of winning national championships, having done so in four of the last nine seasons (1983, 1987, 1989 and 1991). In even-numbered years, however, the Hurricanes are just—and we use that term guard-edly—another top-five team. But in 1992, the 'Canes are poised to become the first team since Alabama in 1978-79 to win back-to-back championships.

But so, too, are the Washington Huskies, who shared the 1991 championship with Miami. And since both the Huskies and Hurricanes are projected in this year's top five, we could have two teams bidding to repeat come January 1.

KICKOFF UNCLASSIC

The Kickoff Classic in East Rutherford, N.J., which is supposed to "kick off" the new season, will not kick off the 1992 season at all, nor is it a classic. This year's first game is the Texas A&M-Stanford contest August 26 in the Disneyland Pigskin Classic in Anaheim, Calif. (Sure, it has a funny-sounding name, but the game ought to be great.)

Organizers of the Kickoff Classic (to be played August 29) went for the gusto and ended up with pabulum. After trying tirelessly to match up defending co-champions Miami and Washington, the game's powersthat-be settled on lowa and North Carolina State. A couple of pretty nice teams to be sure, but it's kind of like getting the Monkees when you wanted the Beatles.

PERFECTO

Over the last 10 years, only six teams have had the talent, coaching and good luck to complete a perfect season. Last year, of course, Miami and Washington (both 12-0) turned the trick.

Heading into 1992, seven teams appear to have the stuff necessary to go unbeaten: Alabama, East Carolina, Texas A&M, UCLA, Washington, the winner of the Florida State-Miami game and the winner of the Michigan-Notre Dame game.

EVERYONE ELSE'S PROBLEM?

Since the end of last season, 16 Division I-A schools have hired new head coaches, and not one of the new hires is an Afro-American. That means that heading into 1992, all 107 Division I-A football teams will be coached by a white man.

While the number of qualified blacks continues to increase, there is no reason to think that schools will go out of their way to hire them. Hiring is done within each institution, and the nationwide racial makeup of the coaching fraternity is irrelevant to the

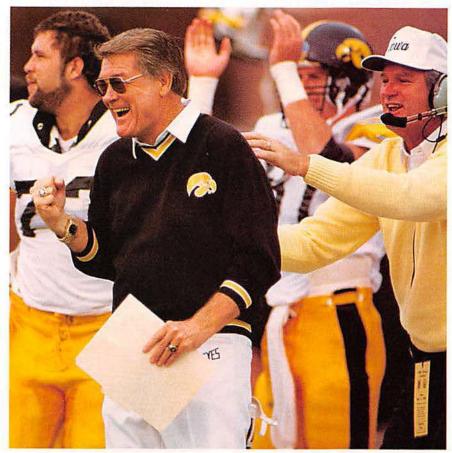
schools. And while most college officials say they are appalled by the dearth of black head coaches, it's obvious that none has felt strongly enough to do anything about it. (Even worse, only five blacks currently hold the title of offensive or defensive coordinator on the Division I-A level.)

For the record, here are five blacks who should be head coaches right now: Tony Dungy (defensive coordinator, Minnesota Vikings), Willie Shaw (defensive backs, Vikings), Ron Dickerson (defensive coordinator/defensive backs, Clemson), Milt Jackson (wide receivers, Los Angeles Rams) and Carl Jackson (running backs, San Francisco 49ers).

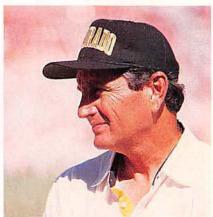
HEISMAN HUNT

Steve Emtman blew it. The mammoth Washington defensive tackle, who left college a year early for the riches of the National Football League, was the Heisman Trophy candidate whom devotees of defense have waited years to rally behind. Of course, who are we to say that his four-year, \$9 million contract with the Indianapolis Colts isn't quite a prize, too?

The NFL's decision to allow the drafting of underclassmen in recent years has had a major impact on Heisman voting. Juniors have won the trophy the last four years, in part because outstanding seniors-to-be often are long gone. And three of those winners left immediately for the pros after pick-







Targets: While North Carolina State will be gunning for Coach Hayden Fry (above, white pants) and the Iowa Hawkeyes in the not-quite Kickoff Classic, other schools will be taking special aim on teams coached by Jackie Sherrill (right, top) and Bill McCartney.



ing up their hardware. As a result, there are fewer strong preseason candidates in 1992, which might mean voters will be forced to wait (gasp!) for all the games to be played before casting their votes.

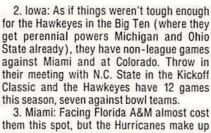
Among seniors, quarterbacks Rick Mirer of Notre Dame and Shane Matthews of Florida have the inside track. Mirer benefits from playing for the Fighting Irish, while Matthews benefits from playing for a Heisman-winning coach (Steve Spurrier).

Don't be surprised, however, if a junior (Nebraska's Derek Brown or Miami's Kevin Williams?) or a sophomore (San Diego State's Marshall Faulk or Georgia's Eric Zeier?) blows right past them to win the award.

TOUGHEST SKEDS

These schools have athletic directors who either like challenges, want more TV revenue, want to see their head coach suffer-or all three:

1. Southern California: The Trojans take five weeks to play their first three games, but they'll need it. They open at San Diego State on September 5, go to Oklahoma two weeks later and visit Washington two weeks after that. They'll play everyone in the Pac-10 except Oregon State (probably the league's weakest team) and finish up at home with Notre Dame. All told, the Trojans have seven 1991 bowl teams on the docket.



them this spot, but the Hurricanes make up for it by taking on Iowa, Arizona, Florida State, Penn State, West Virginia, Syracuse and San Diego State. And in fairness to the 'Canes, everyone guns for the national

4. Brigham Young: In non-league games, the Cougars play host to UCLA and Penn State and visit Notre Dame on October 24. The latter will be the long-awaited, first-time tussle between the Catholics and the Mormons

5. Syracuse: Fans of the Orangemen will love seeing Miami, Ohio State and Texas come to the Carrier Dome in 1992. It isn't certain the coaches and players will feel quite the same way.

EASIEST SKEDS

1. North Carolina: When you invite Army, Navy and Furman over to your place in the same season, you're begging for this distinc-

2. East Carolina: After opening at home against Syracuse and visiting West Virginia later in the year, the Pirates face nine other very beatable teams.

3. Alabama: The Crimson Tide plays just three teams that finished 1991 with a winning record, and only two of them (Tennessee and Mississippi State) went to bowl games.

4. Washington: Although they do play Nebraska at home, the Huskies also invite Wisconsin and Pacific to Seattle (among their seven home games), and they don't have to face the Pac-10's second-best team, UCLA.

5. Rutgers: Back-to-back October games against Penn State and Syracuse don't make up for the full house of Army, Navy, Colgate, Cincinnati and Temple.

CONVENIENCE TRIPS THEY'RE NOT

We don't want to call these the worst road trips in major-college football, so let's just say they're out of the way:

1. Fayetteville, Ark. (Arkansas): You can't get there from here. Tulsa has the nearest semi-major airport, and it's not the easiest place to get to, either. Then it's 100 miles more to Fayetteville, with no direct highway.

2. Laramie, Wyo. (Wyoming): It's one of the longest bus trips in college football. Most teams fly into Denver and take a grim threehour bus ride.

3. Pullman, Wash. (Washington State): Teams often fly into Seattle, then to Spokane, then bus 70 miles to Pullman.

4. State College, Pa. (Penn State): Visitors have two choices: either drive for two or three hours (or more), or hop on a milk-run commuter flight. These problems should be alleviated in 1993, when College Park Airport expands its runways to handle larger jets.

5. Honolulu (Hawaii): It looks great on the schedule, but flights take at least five hours each way (sometimes eight to 10), and there is never much time for sunbathing.

TOUGH TICKETS

To attend one of these games in 1992, you'd better already have your tickets-or know someone who owes you a gargantuan favor:

1. SEC championship game, Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 5.

2. Florida State at Clemson, Sept. 12.

3. Miami at Syracuse, Nov. 21.

4. Michigan at Notre Dame, Sept. 12.

5. Alabama at Mississippi State, Nov. 14.

6. Texas vs. Oklahoma (at Dallas), Oct. 10.







Terrific threesome: Defensive end Chris Slade of Virginia (center) is one of college football's top five players. Washington's Beno Bryant (right) rates among the game's most electrifying performers, while Ohio State's Jason Simmons is about to become a prime-time player.



And the game's not bad, either: As they cheer on their Cougars, BYU fans also enjoy a breathtaking view of the Wasatch Mountains.

- 7. Colorado at Nebraska, Oct. 31.
- 8. Penn State at Notre Dame, Nov. 14.
- 9. Nebraska at Washington, Sept. 19.
- 10. Georgia Southern at Georgia, Oct. 10.

PUT IT ON A POST CARD

When the game is bad but the weather is good, the day isn't a total loss if you're sitting in one of college football's most spectacular

1. Husky Stadium (Washington): Upperdeck seats on the north side get you a view of the snowcapped Cascade range—with a shot of 14,211-foot Mt. Rainier during most September games-as well as Lake Washington and the scores of boats that brought fans to the game.

2. Michie Stadium (Army): From a seat high on the west side, you'll get the Lusk Reservoir in the foreground, with Cadet Chapel overlooking the Hudson River. The colorful autumn foliage is as good as it gets anywhere. Get there early; before the game, it is the most serene spot in college football.

3. Cougar Stadium (Brigham Young): Again, the higher the better. Rising immediately and dramatically behind the east side of the stadium is a full panorama of the majestic Wasatch Mountains. In November, skiers often have trouble keeping their gaze on the field.

4. Memorial Stadium (California): You'll want to sit high on the west side, where picturesque Strawberry Canyon envelops your immediate view. If you're in the top row, you can turn around, look over the back of the stadium, and there's the San Francisco Bay, complete with the Golden Gate Bridge.

5. Beaver Stadium (Penn State): Unlike most stadium additions, the new 10,000-seat upper deck in the north end zone actually enhances your view of the scenery. Stunning Mt. Nittany rises from the farmlands, and there's no better viewpoint than from the north upper deck.

GRUDGE MATCHES

More than mere rivalries, grudge matches carry additional, distasteful baggage that tears at a team's intestines. Here are the top five grudge matches for 1992:

1. Oklahoma vs. Texas, Oct. 10 (at Dallas): The Longhorns have beaten the Sooners three years in a row and, from Oklahoma's perspective, have been a little too high-handed in doing so.

2. California at Arizona State, Nov. 14: After making beautiful music with the Bears for five seasons, Bruce Snyder divorced them to become coach of the Sun Devils. You gotta love these intra-conference lovers' triangles.

3. Georgia vs. Florida, Oct. 31 (at Jacksonville, Fla.): Steve Spurrier reminded folks after the Gators' 45-13 victory last year that Georgia's recruiting classes are always rated higher than Florida's, a comment that rankled Bulldog fans. Florida has ripped Georgia by a combined 83-20 score the last two years.

4. San Diego State at Brigham Young, Sept. 10: The Aztecs led, 42-17, at home last year with 21 minutes left before the Cougars roared back for a 52-52 tie. Losing what amounted to the Western Athletic Conference championship game on their home field has not set well with the Aztecs.

5. Southern Cal vs. Notre Dame, Nov. 28: Most incoming USC freshmen were 9 years old when the Trojans last beat the Fighting Irish in 1982. The Troy boys have plenty of frustration to vent in this one.

TAKING IT PERSONALLY

Some teams handle success better than others. Here are seven teams whom opponents would take extra satisfaction in beating this year:

1. Miami and Notre Dame (tie). It's hard to separate the Hurricanes and the Irish, both of whom spark plenty of animosity in their opponents.

3. Colorado. Bill McCartney's dripping sincerity and some knock-down, drag-out recruiting tussles (not to mention 30 wins in three years) have put the Buffs on college football's most-wanted list.

4. Florida. It seems as if every game the Gators play has some kind of extracurricular issue attached to it (Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee come to mind).

5. California: While rising up from the depths over the last two seasons (a combined 17-6-1 record), the Bears became the Bad-Mouth Bears, and most of their Pac-10 brethren think it's pay-back time.

Mississippi State: Jackie Sherrill is the Bulldogs' coach. 'Nuff said.

7. Houston: Even though the Cougars got their comeuppance during last season's 4-7 campaign, it'll take a lot more than that to turn John Jenkins into one of the boys.

WORTH THEIR WEIGHT

Inch for inch and pound for pound, here are five guys who get the most out of what they have. Introducing the Sugar Ray Robinsons of college football:

Matt Sign, NT, Rice (5-10, 220).

- 2. Reggie Barnes, DE, Oklahoma (6-1, 218)
- 3. Le'Shai Maston, OLB, Baylor (6-1, 205).
- 4. Ray Buchanan, FS, Louisville (5-9,
- 5. Eric Guliford, WR, Arizona State (5-8, 160).

READY FOR PRIME TIME

Here are 10 returning non-starters (or rare starters) ready for bigger roles in '92:

- 1. Mark Caesar, DT, Miami (Fla.).
- 2. Jason Simmons, OLB, Ohio State.
- 3. Clifton Abraham, CB, Florida State.
- 4. Irv Smith, TE, Notre Dame.



- 5. Mill Coleman, WR, Michigan State.
- 6. Jeff Brunner, DT, Colorado.
- 7. Todd Kelly, DE, Tennessee.
- 8. Jamal Willis, RB, Brigham Young.
- 9. Mike Coats, ILB, Oklahoma.
- 10. Norman Watkins, DE, Texas.

WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION

The nation's most electrifying players:

- 1. Kevin Williams, WR/KR, Miami. 2. O.J. McDuffie, WR/KR, Penn State.
- 3. David Palmer, WR/KR, Alabama.
- 4. Beno Bryant, RB/KR, Washington.
- 5. Glyn Milburn, RB/KR, Stanford.

TURN OUT THE LIGHTS

Nobody hits opposing ballcarriers harder than these guys:

- 1. Jaime Fields, OLB, Washington.
- 2. Patrick Bates, SS, Texas A&M.
- 3. Tommy Thigpen, ILB, North Carolina.
- 4. Darrin Smith, OLB, Miami (Fla.).
- 5. Robert Harper, SS, Ohio State.



Doubling their pleasure: California's Golden Bears have two standout running backs of nearly equal quality in Russell White (right) and Lindsey Chapman.

BUDDING SUPERSTARS

Here are five sophomores who have started less than a full season (or not at all) and haven't gotten the national attention of fellow sophomores Marshall Faulk, Eric Zeier and David Palmer. If they continue to progress, they will:

- 1. Sam Adams, DE, Texas A&M.
- 2. Calvin Jones, RB, Nebraska.
- 3. Rafael Denson, RB, Oklahoma State.
- 4. Darnay Scott, WR, San Diego State.
- 5. Mario Bates, RB, Arizona State.

DYNAMITE TAG TEAMS

Only one can start, but the backup may be better than the starter in some cases:

- 1. Derek Brown/Calvin Jones, RB, Nebraska.
- 2. Billy Joe Hobert/Mark Brunell, QB. Washington.
- 3. Ricky Powers/Tyrone Wheatley/Jesse Johnson, RB, Michigan.
- 4. Kevin Patrick/Darren Krein, DE, Miami (Fla.).
- 5. Russell White/Lindsey Chapman, RB, California.

SCHOLASTIC STANDOUTS

Major achievers both on the field and in the classroom:

- 1. Daniel Boyd, LB, Mississippi State, microbiology
- 2. Glyn Milburn, RB/KR, Stanford, public
- 3. Jim Hansen, OT, Colorado, aerospace engineering.

4. Chris Hutchinson, DT, Michigan, communications.

5. Alec Millen, OT, Georgia, psychology.

THEY'RE BAAAACK

These players return this year after missing most or all of 1991:

- 1. Robert Smith, RB. Ohio State (quit/returned/redshirted)
- 2. Derrick Alexander, WR. Michigan (injury)
- 3. William Bell, RB, Georgia Tech (suspension).
 - 4. Jeff Cummins, DE, Oregon (injury).
- 5. Thomas Williams, DT, Wyoming (suspension).

FUTURE PRO BOWLERS?

As good as they are in college, these players could be even better once they hit the NFL:

- 1. Drew Bledsoe, QB, Washington State.
- 2. Darren Mickell, DE, Florida.
- 3. Rick Mirer, QB, Notre Dame.
- 4. Lincoln Kennedy, OT, Washington.
- 5. Tom Scott, OT, East Carolina.

THE CADILLACS

Regardless of position, these are the best players in college football this year:

- 1. Jerome Bettis, FB, Notre Dame.
- 2. O.J. McDuffie, WR/KR, Penn State.
- 3. Chris Slade, DE, Virginia.
- 4. Lamar Thomas, SE, Miami (Fla.).
- 5. Marcus Buckley, OLB, Texas A&M.

ALL-AMERICA STAFF

These guys coach their specific position groups as well or better than anybody and have virtually universal respect among their

Quarterbacks: Homer Smith, UCLA.

Running backs: Ted Williams, Washington

Offensive line: Jerry Hanlon, Michigan; Dick Anderson, Penn State.

Wide receivers: Norm Chow, Brigham Young.

Defensive line: Charlie McBride, Nebraska. Inside linebackers: Jim Lambright, Washington

Outside linebackers: Larry Lacewell, Tennessee.

Secondary: Ron Dickerson, Clemson.

BAKER'S DOZEN BIGGEST GAMES

These 13 games figure to be the most important in the drive to the national crown:

- 1. Florida State at Miami (Fla.), Oct. 3.
- 2. Michigan at Notre Dame, Sept. 12.
- 3. Miami (Fla.) at Penn State, Oct. 10.
- 4. Penn State at Notre Dame, Nov. 14.
- 5. Nebraska at Washington, Sept. 19.
- 6. Florida State at Clemson, Sept. 12.
- Florida vs. Georgia, Oct. 31.
- 8. Miami (Fla.) at Syracuse, Nov. 21.
- 9. Oklahoma at Colorado, Oct. 17. T9. Colorado at Nebraska, Oct. 31.
- T9. Nebraska at Oklahoma, Nov. 27.
- 12. Florida at Florida State, Nov. 28.
- 13. lowa at Michigan, Oct. 3.



Pupil Matthews may rival Heisman-winning tutor

By DAVID H. CARROLL Free-lance writer

t has become a familiar scene. Florida Coach Steve Spurrier signals in a well-designed pass play and then his ace student, quarterback Shane Matthews, finds an open receiver and quickly gets him the ball.

After more than two years of tutoring by Spurrier, Matthews has developed into, arguably, the most polished collegiate quarterback in the country. He coolly and efficiently spreads the football around to Florida's speedy receivers and backs.

"Shane is the perfect quarterback for our A sweet touch: Shane Matthews throws "catchable" ball for Gators.

The Sporting N

offense because he understands it so well and has the ability to make the plays," Spurrier said. "He makes good decisions. He throws the ball to the right man. And he throws that catchable ball. You see his ball go out there, and it hits those receivers running right in the chest."

"Shane has that sweet touch," Gators tailback Errict Rhett agreed. "He has something special on it that puts the ball just where we like to catch it."

Matthews has thrust himself into the Florida and Southeastern Conference record books, establishing 14 school and six SEC marks while winning the last two SEC Player of the Year awards. He passed for a school-record 2,952 yards and 23 touchdowns as a sophomore in 1990. Last year, he increased his output to 3,130 yards and 28 TDs—two school records and an SEC mark for touchdown tosses. By the time he throws his last spiral for the Gators this season, he probably will own every significant school and SEC passing mark.

At that point, Matthews also might own the 1992 Heisman Trophy. Matthews, who finished fifth in last year's balloting, is the leading returning votegetter. If he wins it, it will be the first time a player has won the Heisman while playing for a coach who also won the award. Spurrier won the honor as a quarterback at Florida in 1966.

"It's an honor to be considered for the Heisman, but I'm not concerned about any individual awards or accomplishments," said Matthews, a quiet, low-key sort. "We emphasize team goals around here. The only thing that matters to me is winning."

Last year, the quarterback from Pascagoula, Miss., led Florida to a 10-1 regular-season record, a first-ever SEC championship and a No. 7 ranking in both THE SPORTING NEWS and the Associated Press' final polls. With 13 starters back, including all of Matthews' receivers, the Gators' pass-happy attack is a good bet to soar even higher in 1992.

"Our main goal is to go out and win the conference again," said Matthews, who has a 13-1 record in 14 SEC starts. "We want to get back to the Sugar Bowl—and win it this time."

Matthews was still smarting from Florida's 39-28 loss to Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl nearly two months after the humiliating defeat last January 1. Typically, Matthews wanted to

1992 College Football Yearbook

shoulder all the blame for the loss, even though he threw for 370 yards and set five Sugar Bowl passing records less than a month after having arthroscopic surgery on his right knee.

"It was my fault," he said. "There were open receivers out there, and I didn't hit them when I should have."

Matthews has learned the benefits of constructive criticism from Spurrier. "That's why I've gotten better," he said. "Coach Spurrier tells me what I've done wrong—and how I can correct it. He teaches me everything I need to know about playing quarterback."

Spurrier says Matthews' willingness to learn makes him a joy to coach.

"He doesn't have a large ego," he said. "He doesn't think he has all the answers. So he listens. And learns."

Bill Matthews remembers the look of anticipation on his son's face the first time Shane got a glimpse of Spurrier's high-powered offense.

"We had heard that Coach Spurrier was coming to Florida to be the head football coach," the elder Matthews said. "So we were sitting at home in Pascagoula watching Spurrier's Duke team play on TV in the 1989 All-American Bowl. After watching Duke pass the ball some, Shane looked over to me and said: 'Now, I can do that. If I get a chance, I can be the quarterback in that offense.'"

When Spurrier arrived in Gainesville in 1990, Matthews was an unknown commodity. He was penciled in as the fifth-team quarterback.

"Nobody in the world came up to me and said, 'Hey, look out for that Matthews kid,' "Spurrier recalled. "Everybody had their choice for our starting quarterback, but not a soul said Shane Matthews."

Florida had a scrimmage one Saturday during spring practice, and Spurrier rotated four quarterbacks and never got Matthews into the game. As the coach walked off the field, he ran into Matthews' father.

"Gosh, I'm sorry I didn't get Shane in," Spurrier apologized.

"Ah, don't worry about it," replied Bill Matthews. "But I just want you to know that he wants a chance to play and he thinks he can compete with these guys."

"Really?"

"Yeah."

Then some strange things happened.



One quarterback transferred and another suffered a toe fracture. All of a sudden, Matthews was No. 3.

With large doses of help from Spurrier, Matthews made rapid strides after that. Spurrier adjusted his throwing motion-lowering the ball and his elbow so that Matthews threw threequarters overhand, like a baseball pitcher. The slender quarterback started to throw strikes. He began to absorb the offense. Then he performed well enough in the spring game and preseason practice to earn the starting job.

Few quarterbacks have burst on the scene with a more impressive first start than Matthews, who as a sophomore completed 20 of 29 passes for 332 yards in a 50-7 shellacking of Oklahoma State. Even fewer quarterbacks have been able to play that way consistently, as Matthews has for two seasons.

Still, Matthews has his skeptics. Many draft experts say he's a great college quarterback who will never make it in the National Football League. They look at his 6-foot-3, 192-pound body and say he's too skinny. They watch him heave the ball 50 yards and say his arm isn't strong enough. They point to his sudden stardom and say he's just a product of Spurrier's system.

Matthews isn't fazed by any of this.

"I don't let anything like that, that I read or hear, bother me," he said. "I know what I can do. I just kind of laugh at that stuff, put it aside and go ahead."

Last January, when other top quarterbacks like Rick Mirer of Notre Dame and Tommy Maddox of UCLA were contemplating whether they should leave college early and turn pro (Mirer said no and Maddox said yes), Matthews didn't consider the possibility.

"I probably wouldn't have even been drafted," joked Matthews, who was planning to study sports administration in graduate school this fall after receiving a marketing degree in the summer.

"I've dreamed all my life of playing in the NFL," he said. "I just hope some of the scouts will take a chance and persuade a team to draft me. Even though I'm not your prototype quarterbacknot huge with a strong arm-I feel like I have some qualities that work on the football field."

Some of those qualities were instilled in Shane by his father. Bill Matthews drew from his experience coaching high school football and playing wide receiver at Mississippi.

'The main thing my dad taught me that Coach Spurrier likes so much is to avoid mistakes," Shane said. "He also taught me how to be a team player and how to win "

Matthews won a lot as a prep All-America quarterback. He guided Pascagoula, coached by his father, to a 14-0 record and state championship in 1987.

Certainly, the football seed was planted in Shane earlier than most youths. His parents brought him home from the hospital wearing a tiny jersey, and he had a football in his hands a week later. As a youngster he played catch in his backyard with former Ole Miss star Archie Manning, a contemporary of his father.

"I wore one of those little jerseys with his number 8 on it everywhere I went," said Shane, reflecting on the number Manning wore as a longtime member of the New Orleans Saints. "I wanted to be a quarterback like him."

Bill Matthews has been pleasantly surprised by Shane's emergence as one of college football's top quarterbacks.

"I thought he would probably be a soso college quarterback, a player who would work hard and start his senior year," he said. "It's just very fortunate that Coach Spurrier came to Florida with that offense and the know-how and Shane has been able to take advantage of it."



OFFENSE

Name. School

WR ANDRE HASTINGS, Georgia WR

LAMAR THOMAS, Miami (Fla.) CLARENCE WILLIAMS, Washington State

JUSTIN HALL, Notre Dame

LINCOLN KENNEDY, Washington

* C MIKE DEVLIN, Iowa

WILL SHIELDS, Nebraska G

MARK GOVI, Tulsa G

SHANE MATTHEWS, Florida OR

JEROME BETTIS, Notre Dame

RB MARSHALL FAULK, San Diego State

DEFENSE

Name, School Pos.

RUSTY MEDEARIS, Miami (Fla.) DI

COLEMAN RUDOLPH, Georgia Tech DL

CHRIS SLADE, Virginia DI

MICHEAL BARROW, Miami (Fla.) IR

IR MARCUS BUCKLEY, Texas A&M

LB RON GEORGE, Stanford IR

MARVIN JONES, Florida State

WALTER BAILEY, Washington PATRICK BATES, Texas A&M

GREG GRANDISON, East Carolina

ROBERT O'NEAL, Clemson

SPECIALISTS

Pos. Name, School

JASON FLAM Hawaii

SHAYNE EDGE, Florida

UARTER

Rk.	PASSING	Ht./Wt.	Class	School
1.	Shane Matthews	6-3/192	Sr.	Florida
	Rick Mirer		Sr.	Notre Dame
2.	Drew Bledsoe		Jr.	Washington State
4.	Billy Joe Hobert		Jr.	Washington
5.	Elvis Grbac		Sr.	Michigan
6.	Gino Torretta		Sr.	Miami (Fla.)
7.	Troy Kopp	.6-2/200	Sr.	Pacific
8.	Eric Zeier		Soph.	Georgia
9.	Marvin Graves	. 6-1/196	Jr.	Syracuse
10.	Cale Gundy	.6-0/189	Jr.	Oklahoma
11.	Glenn Foley		Jr.	Boston College
12.	Steve Stenstrom		Soph.	Stanford
13.	Alex Van Pelt	.6-2/225	Sr.	Pittsburgh
14.	David Lowery		Jr.	San Diego State
15.	Frank Dolce		Sr.	Utah
16.	Phil Johnson	.6-5/205	Jr.	Missouri
17.	Erik White	.6-5/210	Sr.	Bowling Green St.
18.	Jason Verduzco	.5-9/190	Sr.	Illinois
19.	Stan White		Jr.	Auburn
20.	Eric Hunter	6-4/205	Sr.	Purdue
N	OTE: Leon Clay of Texas Ch	ristian not	listed du	ie to injury.

Rk.	ALL-PURPOSE	Ht./Wt.	Class	School
1.	Shawn Jones	6-1/200	Sr.	Georgia Tech
2. 3. 4.	William Robinson	6-0/195	Sr.	Mississippi State
3.	J.J. Joe	5-11/178	Jr.	Baylor
4.	Robert Hall	6-0/170	Jr.	Texas Tech
5.	Mark Brunell	6-2/205	Sr.	Washington
6.	Jeff Garcia	6-1/185	Jr.	San Jose State
7.	Michael Carter	5-10/223	Jr.	Hawaii
8.	Trent Green	6-4/215	Sr.	Indiana
9.	Marcus Wilson	6-1/199	Sr.	Vanderbilt
10.	Trent Dilfer	6-5/225	Soph.	Fresno State
N	OTE: Jeff Brohm of Lou	isville not listed	due to i	njury.

Great player in a great QB system. First Heisman/nat'l champ since '76? Fits pro mold better than anybody. Hard-nosed winner is 12-0 as starter. Nation's most efficient passer in '91. Average completion covered 15 yards. Has thrown for 79 TDs in career Field leader of Bulldogs' resurgence. Key man in rise of Orangemen. He's over his sophomore jinx Could become tops in good QB league. Should benefit from Walsh's tutelage. Has had problems in big games. Keeps foes from ganging up on Faulk. Consistently finds the open man. Big man with big arm in the Big Eight. Led Falcons to Cinderella season in '91. Spectacular at times, shaky at others. It's his time to take a step forward. Should pick up where he left off in '91.

Comment

Seeking return to 1990 form. Can beat foes many ways. Has been the key to the Bears' success. Gives Red Raider offense versatility. Other half of Huskies' fab QB tag team. Combines great feet with fine arm. Dangerous by land and air. Steps into spotlight without star RB. The Commodores' captain of offense. Could be Sweeney's best QB ever.

As 'Big Daddy,' Bettis deals out big punishment

By JIM SPADAFORE Detroit News

is nickname is Big Daddy, and one look at Jerome Bettis tells you why.

The Notre Dame junior, one of the biggest and best fullbacks around, stands 6-foot and weighs 247 pounds.

"I like the ring to Big Daddy," said Bettis, who was given the nickname by Fighting Irish assistant coach Joe Moore. "Big as a truck and quick as a Caddy."

That pretty well sums up Bettis, who has the potential to be the best running back in Notre Dame history. Bettis' strength and quickness were on display last January 1 in the Irish's 39-28 Sugar Bowl victory over Florida when he scored on runs of 49, 39 and three yards and netted 150 yards on 16 carries.

During the regular season, Bettis ran for 971 yards and 16 touchdowns and gained 5.7 yards per carry. While he prefers to run over tacklers, Bettis will use his 4.6-second speed over 40 yards to burst past them, too.

"Basically, when I'm running and it's inevitable I'm going to get tackled, I try to punish someone," he said. "I'm not going to be brought down without a fight. I'll do whatever it takes to get in the end zone."

Bettis knows he'll be swamped this fall with questions about the possibility of his early entry into the National Football League draft.

"I'm determined to stay focused with all the hoopla about me going pro and any talk about the Heisman (Trophy), even though I know that's just a dream for a fullback," Bettis said. "As far as leaving a year early for the pros... I'll wait until after the season and then discuss it with my parents."

Bettis has an intense desire to succeed. It started as a youngster in Detroit because of the values set forth at home.

"Academics were stressed so much by my mother that I didn't even think about playing football when I was growing up," Bettis said.

"I didn't play organized football until the ninth grade. But I've been fortunate to have some good coaches. Bob Dozier in high school (Mackenzie in Detroit) and then all the coaches at Notre Dame. Coach (Lou) Holtz brings out the best in me and makes you compete. His expectations are higher than mine, and I definitely have high expectations."



Jerome Bettis: Whatever the hoopla, the powerful fullback will stay "focused" in 1992.

RUNNING BACKS

			and the state of		
Rk.	HALFBACKS/TAILBACKS	Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
1.	Marshall Faulk	5-10/185	Soph.	San Diego State	Most schools recruited him as a DB.
2.	Derek Brown		Jr.	Nebraska	Will share job again with Calvin Jones.
3.	Russell White		Sr.	California	Cohort Lindsey Chapman excels, too.
4.	Greg Hill		Soph.	Texas A&M	Blew through the SWC like a dust storm.
5.	Calvin Jones		Soph.	Nebraska	Gained 8.3 yards per rush as freshman.
6.	Terry Kirby		Sr.	Virginia	Will carry primary load for Cavaliers.
7.	Ricky Powers		Jr.	Michigan	Leading man in cast of great backs.
8.	Robert Smith		Soph.	Ohio State	Just count 1991 as a redshirt season.
9.	Trevor Cobb		Sr.	Rice	Scatback won '91 Doak Walker Award.
10.	Kevin Williams		Sr.	UCLA	Healthy in '91, he led Pac-10 in rushing.
11.	Errict Rhett		Jr.	Florida	Best back in the SEC.
12.	Tico Duckett		Sr.	Michigan State	Big Ten's top returning rusher again.
13.	Garrison Hearst	5-11/195	Jr.	Georgia	Versatile back who can go the distance.
14.	Estrus Crayton	6-2/190	Sr.	Southern California	Looks like Trojans' best in a decade.
15.			Jr.	North Carolina	Latest in long line of 1,000-yard Heels.
16.	Lamont Warren	6-0/185	Soph.	Colorado	Still must prove his durability.
17.	Richie Anderson	6-2/216	Jr.	Penn State	Hits hole hard and doesn't look back.
18.	William Bell		Jr.	Georgia Tech	Returns from season in exile.
19.	Tyrone Wheatley	6-1/215	Soph.	Michigan	Breakaway burner of deep backfield.
20.		6-2/220	Jr.	Florida State	Showed promise as reserve in '91.
NOTE: Eric Gallon of Kansas State and Ronald Williams of Clemson not listed due to injuries.					
- MEDIA	and the second	TRANSPORTER TO	CENTRAL PROPERTY.	12747070	120000000 (II)

RK. FULLBACKS HL/WL School He's redefining standard for position. Jerome Bettis. Notre Dame Baylor Oklahoma Robert Strait. Powerful runner pounds defenses. Figures to carry substantial load. Kenyon Rasheed Helps pace Bulldogs' leap into WAC. Suspended for first three games of year. 6-0/225 Fresno State Lorenzo Neal..... Rudy Harris... Clemson Lew Montgomery. Steady performer who could blossom. lowa William Floyd ... Florida State Key part of young backfield. Soph. Miami (Fla.) Will play regardless of McGuire's status. Larry Jones 6-0/225 Nebraska Mostly a blocker, but he can run, too. Greg Zomalt 6-2/215 California Enhances value with receiving skills. NOTE: Stephen McGuire of Miami (Fla.) and Billy Johnson of Arizona not listed due to injuries.

Deacons' tight end would be a demon at any position

By DOUG DOUGHTY Roanoke Times & World-News

s the son of a career military man, John Henry Mills grew accustomed to frequent moves, so it hardly bothered him to begin his college football career without a position.

Mills was a tailback in high school in Tallahassee, Fla., but when Wake Forest recruited him, he was projected as a fullback, linebacker or strong safety. Special teams were made for him.

It was Mills' relentless kick coverage that gained him playing time as a true freshman in 1988, but it was the next fall before Wake Forest found a position for him—tight end.

"I'm not the typical height and weight for a tight end," the 6-foot-1, 220-pound Mills acknowledged. "I'm the shortest and lightest tight end in the league, if not the nation."

Mills also is a two-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection. He led the ACC with 51 receptions last year and has 108 career catches in a little more than two seasons.

While Mills missed most of the 1989 season because of a knee injury (one that brought him a favorable hardship ruling), the injury didn't diminish his speed or strength. Mills has been clocked under 4.5 seconds for 40 yards and has lifted 415 pounds in the bench press.

"He can run and catch and block," Wake Forest Coach Bill Dooley said. "He would be pretty good wherever you put him. He's half a tight end and half a wingback. I believe the pros would call him an H-back."

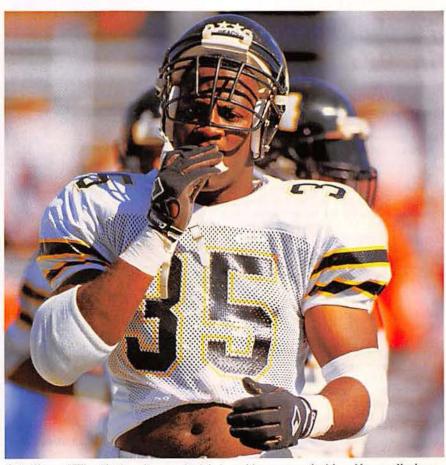
Dooley said Mills combines the catching ability of Ricky Proehl with the natural tight-end skills of Greg Scales, former Wake Forest players who are now in the National Football League. Proehl plays for Phoenix and Scales for New Orleans.

Mills was not heavily recruited. He scarcely lived anywhere long enough to make a name, with homes in Florida, Virginia, South Carolina, Hawaii and North Carolina.

He learned to make adjustments, just as he did when he moved to tight end and had to learn how to block. He frequently goes against much larger defensive ends.

Mills has set a goal of 65 receptions this year, just as he did last season, when he felt he had too many drops. Also, Mills did not have a touchdown catch last year until the final game.

"Everyone knew it," Mills said. "One game, I was run down at the 4-yard line. Against Georgia Tech, I dropped a ball at the goal line. So, when I finally did get one (against Navy), you can believe I heard about it."



John Henry Mills: Not heavily recruited, he's making a name for himself as a collegian.

RECEIVERS

	arile i	n E	,		n o
Rk.	WIDE RECEIVERS	Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
				The second secon	
1.	Lamar Thomas		Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	Patience for NFL career should pay off.
2.	Andre Hastings		Jr.	Georgia	If acrobatics counted, he'd always win.
3.	Sean Dawkins		Jr.	California	Could become most complete WR of all.
4.	Sean LaChapelle		Sr.	UCLA	Must cope without Maddox.
5.	Aaron Turner		Sr.	Pacific	Has 3, 174 career receiving yards.
6.	Horace Copeland	6-3/200	Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	Master of the alley-oop reception.
7.	Fred Gilbert	5-9/174	Sr.	Houston	Led NCAA with 106 receptions in 1991.
8.	Terry Smith	6-1/200	Jr.	Clemson	Keeps foes from cheating to stop run.
9.	Willie Jackson	6-1/194	Jr.	Florida	Has ability to top this list in 1993.
10.	Danan Hughes	6-2/202	Sr.	lowa	Uses good hands, speed in baseball, too.
11.	Melvin Bonner	6-3/196	Sr.	Baylor	Led nation in yards per catch (24.6).
12.	Victor Bailey	6-4/200	Sr.	Missouri	Leads superb corps of Tiger wideouts.
13.	Bryan Rowley		Sr.	Utah	Can go deep with the best of them.
14.	Tre Everett	5-9/175	Sr.	Florida	Hoping for first injury-free season.
15.	Darnay Scott	6-3/185	Soph.	San Diego State	Will he tap all of his immense potential?
16.	Thomas Lewis		Jr.	Indiana	A grid version of Hoosier Hysteria.
17.	Eric Guliford	5-8/160	Sr.	Arizona State	Lightning-quick with flypaper hands.
18.	Lloyd Hill	6-2/185	Jr.	Texas Tech	Fearless Red Raider does job in traffic.
19.	Shelby Hill		Jr.	Syracuse	Double trouble with Qadry Ismail.
20.	Phillip Bobo		Jr.	Washington State	Must improve his consistency.
N			d Richa	ard Woodley of Texas	Christian not listed due to injuries.
Rk.	TIGHT ENDS	Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
1.	Clarence Williams	6-2/236	Sr.	Washington State	Runs like a WR, blocks like a guard.
2.	Fred Baxter		Sr.	Auburn	Sometimes fades in reserved attack.
3.	Coleman Bell		Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	Rounds out great receiving corps.
4.	John Henry Mills	6-1/220	Sr.	Wake Forest	Smallish, but makes all the catches.
5.	Irv Smith	6-4/246	Sr.	Notre Dame	Fits Derek Brown's All-America shoes.
6.	Todd Cutler		Sr.	New Mexico State	Arguably nation's top receiving TE.
7.	Joey Mickey		Sr.	Oklahoma	Took big step forward in bowl game.
8.	Pat Akos	6-5/255	Jr.	Vanderbilt	Dandy Vandy receiver and blocker.
9.	Marcus Pope		Sr.	Southern Miss	Has potential to rise to top.

Arguably nation's best blocking TE.

.6-2/260 Sr.

NOTE: Kyle Brady of Penn State not listed due to injury.

10. William Washington ...

Kennedy plans further success in '92 campaign

By DON BORST Tacoma News Tribune

t's an election year, so that means a guy named Lincoln Kennedy of Washington should get a lot of attention.

And, considering that he is a leader on a team that has won 14 games in a row and is known for his quickness as much as for his 6-foot-7, 325-pound frame, the 1992 campaign should be a success for the Husky offensive tackle.

Kennedy, who was born on Abraham Lincoln's birthday, can thank his mother for his unique name. His given name is Tamerlane, the same as his father's, but his mother couldn't resist nicknaming him "Little Linc" in honor of America's 16th president. The nickname has stuck, but she dropped the "Little" part a long time ago. That's fine with Kennedy. After all, he has big plans for this season.

"I'm expecting nothing less than a great year," the senior said.

He and the Huskies had one of those last season, when they went 12-0 and won The Sporting News and CNN/USA Today national championships. But things weren't always so rosy for Kennedy and the Huskies.

On his first day of camp as a redshirt freshman in 1988, Kennedy was unable to complete his 40-yard dash without stumbling over himself. The Huskies turned out to be dogs, too, finishing 6-5 and staggering to their only non-bowl season in the last 13 campaigns.

"Things really have changed," Kennedy said. "We had trouble beating anybody then."

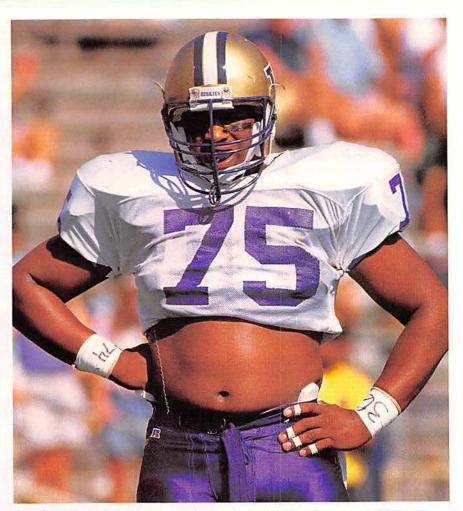
In 1991, the Huskies had little trouble beating anybody. They won by an average of 32 points, with only one foe (California) as close as a touchdown.

"Personally, I felt like I kept getting better, and the whole team was the same way," he said.

As for his freshman difficulties, he's able to look back and laugh.

"I was just trying too hard, I guess," he said. "I tried to get up as fast as I could and hope that no one saw me... but when I tried to walk away, I realized I'd sprained my ankle. It was really embarrassing."

That wasn't much of a first impression. But since he was moved from defensive line to offensive tackle following his redshirt freshman season, he's made plenty of lasting impressions by putting defenders on the ground.



No political bunk: Lincoln Kennedy is expecting nothing less than a great '92 season.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Rk.	CENTERS	Ht./Wt.	Class	School
1.	Mike Devlin	6-3/275	Sr.	Iowa
2.	Steve Everitt	6-5/270	Sr.	Michigan
3.	Quentin Neujahr	6-4/270	Jr.	Kansas State
4.	Randall Parsons	6-3/270	Sr.	North Carolina
5.	Mike Compton	6-7/289	Sr.	West Virginia
6.	Turk McDonald	6-4/274	Sr.	Texas
7.	Jim Pyne	6-2/257	Jr.	Virginia Tech
8.	Toby Mills		Jr.	Arizona State
9.	Chris Dausin		Jr.	Texas A&M
10.	Glen Cavanaugh		Jr.	Stanford

lk.	GUARDS	Ht./Wt.	Class	School
1.	Will Shields	6-1/295	Sr.	Nebraska
2.	Mark Govi	6-5/287	Sr.	Tulsa
3.	Aaron Taylor	6-4/294	Jr.	Notre Dame
4.	Joe Cocozzo	6-3/294	Sr.	Michigan
5.	Stacy Seegars	6-4/320	Jr.	Clemson
6.	John Ellisor	6-3/278	Sr.	Texas A&M
7.	Brian Cassidy	6-5/305	Jr	Stanford
8.	Ted Harrison	6-4/301	Sr.	Minnesota
9.	Paul Moriarty	6-5/287	Sr.	Oklahoma
0.	Chuck Belin	6-3/300	Sr.	Wisconsin
lk.	TACKLES	Ht./Wt.	Class	School
1.	Lincoln Kennedy	6-7/325	Sr.	Washington
2.	Justin Hall		Sr.	Notre Dame
3.	Vaughn Parker	6-3/275	Jr.	UCLA
4.	Tom Scott		Sr.	East Carolina
5.	Tony Boselli	6-7/275	Soph.	Southern California
6.	Alan Kline	6-7/290	Jr.	Ohio State
v.			0-	Mississippi State
7.	John James	6-3/294	Sr.	Mississiphi State
7. 8.			Sr.	Mississippi
7. 8. 9.	John James	6-5/290		Mississippi

Comment

Anchors another fine Hawkeye line. Wolverines rush better when he plays. Big reason for improved running. Lone returning line starter for Heels. Size enables him to use brute force. Point man in Longhorns' new attack. Workmanlike center gets the job done. Starter since middle of freshman year. Helps Aggies play smash-mouth ball. Extremely agile for his size.

Comment

Paves highway for Husker speedsters.
Nation's most overlooked lineman.
Pity the unsuspecting LBs and DBs.
Third-year starter on great line.
Continues history of fine linemen.
Leads outstanding Aggie line.
Called upon to root out tough yards.
Provides power for Gophers' attack.
Forms great guard duo with Jeff Resler.
Leads imposing Badger front line.

Comment

Amazingly agile for his size.
His toughest foe has been injury bug.
Part of a great Bruin OT duo.
Known for his "rhino blocks."
First frosh lineman tabbed All-Pac-10.
Buckeye bruiser has limitless potential.
Bulldogs follow his path in key spots.
Looks like a big-time Sunday player.
Made big impact as a big freshman.
Keys Hawkeyes' drive to Rose Bowl.

Penn State's Benfatti attracting blockers and praise

By MICHAEL BRADLEY Free-lance writer

t must be pretty tough to be a defensive lineman at Penn State (a.k.a. Linebacker U.).

The school is practically a linebacking research-and-development facility for the National Football League, having produced such pro stars as Jack Ham, Shane Conlan, Greg Buttle and Andre Collins.

That's the Penn State tradition. The Nittany Lions' 3-4 defense features line-backers. It liberates them. Big, husky guys up front occupy all the blockers while the linebackers step up and make the tackles.

Lou Benfatti is one of those anonymous players along the line. The 6-foot-3, 270-pound junior tackle functions a little like a cop in a pier-six brawl. He engages as many offensive linemen as he can until help comes. He has done it every game for the last two years and, barring injury, should do it again every Saturday over the next two.

Should he continue his rapid development, Benfatti will join another select fraternity of Penn State football alumni—outstanding defensive linemen. Bruce Clark. Matt Millen. Mike Reid. Tim Johnson. They may lack the scrapbooks of the guys who line up behind them, but they are no less coveted by the NFL.

"Lou is very much in the league with those guys," said Jim Williams, who has coached Penn State defensive linemen for 15 years. "He's strong, runs under a 5.0 40-yard dash and is very mature. I feel strongly that he should make the jump to that next level. He's very close now."

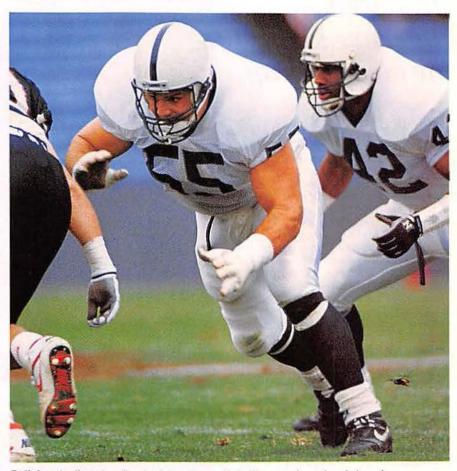
Benfatti credits a plaque given to him by his father, Lou Sr., with serving as one of his inspirations to excel on the field. The plaque, which hangs in Benfatti's dorm room, reads: "Mental and physical preparation separates winners from losers." And after watching the unselfish Benfatti play, it's easy to see he's a winner.

"It doesn't bother me if I clog up the line and someone else makes the play," Benfatti said. "If I play well, people will notice me."

For the next two years, Benfatti will get plenty of appreciation from opponents in the form of double- and triple-team blocking. He'll accept the challenge willingly.

"I want to take advantage of my Godgiven abilities," Benfatti said. "Some guys don't know what they can be, because they don't work at it. My father and coaches have helped me see what I can become. I want to take advantage of that."

Even if he isn't a linebacker.



Policing the line: Lou Benfatti functions a little like a cop in a pier-six brawl.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Rk.	TACKLES/NOSEMEN HL/WL	Class	School	Comment
1.	Coleman Rudolph (T)6-4/267	Sr.	Georgia Tech	Best player in so-so year for linemen.
	Jeff Zgonina (NG)6-2/284	Sr.	Purdue	No matter how you say it, he's good.
2.	Leonard Renfro (T)6-4/270	Jr.	Colorado	Could turn out to be the best.
4.	Kevin Mitchell (NG)6-1/247	Jr.	Syracuse	Simply refuses to stay blocked.
5.	Mack Travis (T) 6-2/285	Sr.	California	Explodes at the snap.
6.	Bryant Young (T)6-3/271	Jr.	Notre Dame	Key man as ND defense regroups.
7.	Lou Benfatti (T) 6-3/270	Jr.	Penn State	Thinking man on Lions' line.
8.	Dana Stubblefield (T)6-3/280	Sr.	Kansas	Goes full throttle start to finish.
9.	Austin Robbins (T)6-6/277	Jr.	North Carolina	Ready for a breakthrough year.
10.	Carl Simpson (T) 6-2/275	Sr.	Florida State	11 sacks were one shy of FSU mark.
11.	Mark Caesar (T) 6-2/290	Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	Consistency is his primary hurdle.
12.	Mike Wells (T) 6-4/275	Jr.	lowa	Offers good inside pass rush.
13.	Tyoka Jackson (T)6-2/250	Jr.	Penn State	Finished strong; should keep rising.
	Chris Hutchinson (T)6-2/260	Sr.	Michigan	Wolverines' gutsy field leader.
C197-CV	Mike Thompson (T)6-4/260	Soph.	Wisconsin	Big future for big youngster.
N	OTE: Alan Young of Vanderbilt not liste	ed due to	injury.	
Rk.	ENDS HL/WL	Class	School	Comment
1.	Chris Slade6-5/235	Sr.	Virginia	Has amassed 25 career sacks.
2.	Rusty Medearis 6-3/245	Jr.	Miami (Fla.)	The complete package.
3.	Darren Mickell 6-4/276	Sr.	Florida	Could top this list by midseason.
4.	John Copeland 6-4/268	Sr.	Alabama	If he doesn't get you, Curry will.
5.	Sam Adams6-4/282	Soph.	Texas A&M	Just starting to tap vast potential.
6.	Jason Gildon 6-4/220	Jr.	Oklahoma State	Big, raw-boned pass rusher.
7.	Eric Curry6-6/265	Sr.	Alabama	If he doesn't get you, Copeland will.
8.	Reggie Barnes 6-1/218	Sr.	Oklahoma	Plays in opposing backfields.
9.	Devon McDonald 6-4/241	Sr.	Notre Dame	Has finally overcome injuries.
10.	Mike Chalenski 6-5/260	Sr.	UCLA Towar Christian	Finally realizing his potential.
11.	Tunji Bolden	Sr.	Texas Christian	The best you've never heard of.
12.	Andy Mason 6-2/238	Jr.	Washington Fact Carolina	A speed mismatch for any tackle. Great athlete who can defend passes.
13.		Sr. Sr.	East Carolina Toledo	NFL scouts sure know about him.
14.	Dan Williams 6-4/275 Jeff Cummins 6-6/260	Sr.	Oregon	Will bounce back from '91 injury.
10.	Jen Cummin 5 0-0/200	01.	Oregon	will boulled back from 3 impury.
61000	OTE: Dan Footman of Florida State and	111	The same of Plants	and Cata district to Indiana

Honored or not, Buckeye knows he measures up

By MARC KATZ **Dayton Daily News**

teve Tovar shrugged it off when he wasn't named Ohio State's best defensive player last year.

"In high school, I played three years of varsity basketball and three years of varsity football," Tovar said. "I never got an MVP in anything . . . (but) I was the only guy to get a scholarship."

This time around, Tovar might not get overlooked when the awards are handed out. A 6-foot-4, 240-pound linebacker, he has led the Buckeyes in tackles the last two seasons.

"I know I'm a pretty good defensive player," said Tovar, who considered declaring for the 1992 National Football League draft but then decided against it. "I can play football. Somebody doesn't have to tell me that (by means of an award). I know it myself."

Although many major schools like to redshirt newcomers as often as possible, Buckeyes Coach John Cooper took one look at freshman Tovar in 1989

and made sure he played every week.
"Look at him," Cooper said at the time. "He's a man."

Nothing Tovar has done since has changed Cooper's opinion.

"He has good work habits," Cooper said of the senior from Elyria, O. "He has character. The best thing about him for his size, he runs. He can close on the ballcarrier. And he has improved every year.

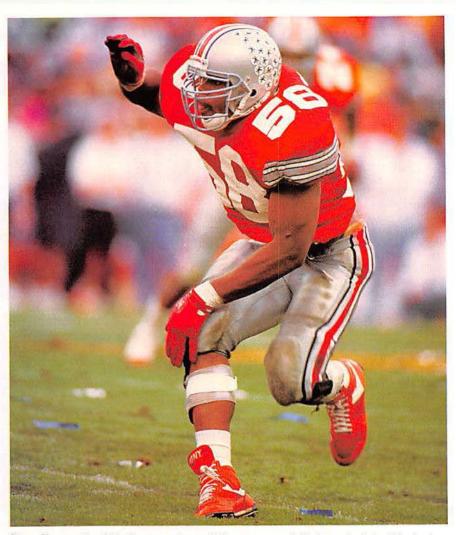
"I like everything about him."

A preseason candidate for both the Butkus Award and the Vince Lombardi/Rotary Award in 1991, Tovar won neither of the honors given to the nation's best linebacker and interior lineman (or linebacker), respectively. The fact the Buckeyes didn't finish as a Top 25 team no doubt hurt his chances.

The guys who won the awards were well-deserving," said Tovar, referring to Michigan's Erick Anderson (Butkus winner) and Washington's Steve Emtman (Lombardi recipient). "Not everybody gets everything they want.

"This year, personally, I think I'm the best linebacker, but I have to prove it to everybody else. That's what I plan on doing. I just feel if I go out and play hard, I'm going to play well."

Well enough, just maybe, to claim his first major individual honor-one named after a former linebacking great. Or, perhaps, one named for a legendary coach.



Steve Tovar: The Ohio State standout will be out to prove he's the nation's best linebacker.

Rk.	INSIDE	HL/WL	Class	School	Comment
1.	Micheal Barrow 6	-2/230	Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	'Canes' bone-rattling hit man.
2.	Marvin Jones 6	-2/220	Jr.	Florida State	Phenom no more: He's the man.
3.	Dave Hoffmann 6	-2/225	Sr.	Washington	Key man in offensive defense.
4.	Demetrius DuBose6		Sr.	Notre Dame	ND captain covers the field.
5.	Greg Biekert 6		Sr.	Colorado	Rare mix of consistency and big plays.
6.	Tommy Thigpen		Sr.	North Carolina	When he sticks you, you're stuck.
7.			Sr.	Ohio State	Main man in veteran defense.
8.	Dana Howard6		Soph.	Illinois	Ornery from sideline to sideline.
9.	Arnold Ale6		Sr.	UCLA	Slowed by injuries, position changes.
10.	James Willis6		Jr.	Auburn	Injuries were his sophomore jinx.
11.	Carlton Miles		Sr.	Florida	Covers the field like few others.
12.	Mick Barsala6		Sr.	California	Major talent finally finds a home.
13.	Ryan McCoy6		Jr.	Houston	Trying to make UH a defensive power.
14.	Jason Atkinson		Jr.	Texas A&M	Led nation's best defense in '91.
15.			Sr.	Mississippi State	Hard-nosed leader of tough defense.

School

Texas A&M

Miami (Fla.)

North Carolina St.

Stanford

Colorado

Nebraska

Clemson

Penn State

Ohio State

Baylor

Texas

Indiana

Colorado

Washington

Miami (Fla.)

Ht./Wt.

6-3/204

Flies in from the corner. 36 tackles for losses in two years. QBs fear no one more than him. Relentless pursuer from outside in. Pairs with David White as fine OLB duo. Great combo of size and speed. Ashley Sheppard gets 'em on other side. They have to hold him to block him. No LB runs faster, hits harder Has been unblockable at times. Speed to burn on the corner Runs down sweeps from behind. Still raw, but had 13 sacks in '91. Hopes to lead Longhorn resurgence. Gives Hoosiers outside pass rush.

OUTSIDE

Marcus Buckley

Tyler Lawrence...

Wayne Simmons.

Reggie Givens ..

Jason Simmons

Le'Shai Maston.

Jessie Armstead Ron Woolfork

Jaime Fields.

Ron George.

Chad Brown

Darrin Smith

Travis Hill.

Pirates' Grandison strikes fear into enemy hearts

By MIKE GRIZZARD Greenville Daily Reflector

ear has a way of driving East Carolina's Greg Grandison.

Grandison's specialty is dishing it out. But the Pirates' talented safety also knows how to take it.

"Sometimes you're kind of scared to get beat," said Grandison, a senior who is considered one of the top defensive backs in the nation. "But I don't let fear control me. I use it to my advantage."

That means planting a message in the minds of opponents. Grandison, physical and aggressive, is a big hitter who patterns himself after another rough-and-tumble player, Steve Atwater of the Denver Broncos.

"I like to be an enforcer," he said.

And with a 6-foot-2, 218-pound frame, Grandison surely is capable of inflicting pain.

"I want to try to intimidate anybody that touches the ball," he said. "You have to attack receivers and running backs the same way.

"I like to instill fear into their hearts. When they come into my territory, I want their heads on a swivel looking for me."

Grandison quickly emphasizes, however, that he's not all brawn.

"I think my biggest asset is my smarts," he said. "I know how to read patterns and how to adjust if I get heat."

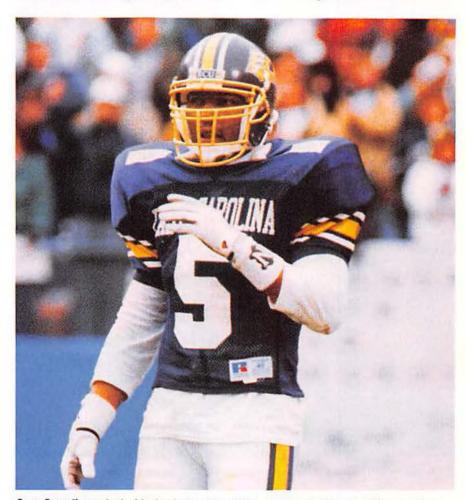
Grandison, one of three returnees in East Carolina's secondary this season, sees his role being magnified in 1992. While the Pirates went 10-1 in the regular season last year and then toppled North Carolina State in the Peach Bowl, the defense has lost a couple of key players—All-America linebacker Robert Jones, for one. Now it's Grandison's turn to step forward.

"I have to be a leader this year," acknowledged Grandison, who is from Pensacola, Fla. "I was counted on some last year, but this year I will be counted on to make a lot of big plays."

Grandison, who started three games as a freshman at Florida before transferring to Pearl River Junior College (Miss.), had a major impact in 1991, his first season with the Pirates. He averaged 9.1 tackles per game and made four interceptions.

Against Central Florida, Grandison intercepted two passes, forced and recovered a fumble on the same play and made nine tackles. His biggest moment, though, came when he returned an interception 95 yards for a touchdown in the Pirates' 24-17 triumph at Virginia Tech.

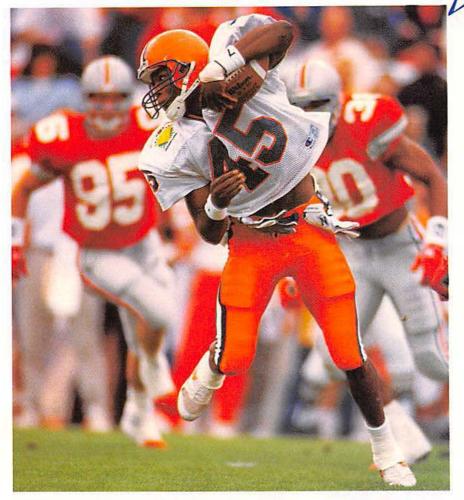
"I was just doing my job," he said.
"They passed when they should have run."



Greg Grandison: Intimidation is the name of the game for the East Carolina standout.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Rk.	SAFETIES Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
1.	Robert O'Neal 6-2/185	Sr.	Clemson	The real deal: Can cover and hit.
2.	Greg Grandison 6-2/218	Sr.	East Carolina	Prototypical NFL strong safety.
3.	Patrick Bates 6-4/225	Jr.	Texas A&M	Lowers the boom on unsuspecting WRs.
4.	Shane Pahukoa 6-3/202	Sr.	Washington	Stock soared with great Rose Bowl.
5.	Tracy Saul 6-0/180	Sr.	Texas Tech	A terrific center fielder.
6.	Lance Gunn 6-3/214	Sr.	Texas	Leader of nation's best 1991 secondary.
7.	Roger Harper 6-4/224	Jr.	Ohio State	Combines traits of LB and CB.
8.	Will White	Sr.	Florida	Has lacked consistency.
9.	Eric Castle6-3/208	Sr.	Oregon	Nothing gets past him.
10.	Tommie Smith 6-2/212	Sr.	Washington	Deluxe run-support safety.
11.	Corwin Brown 6-1/185	Sr.	Michigan	Directs defense by example.
12.	Othello Henderson6-0/200	Jr.	UCLA	Strides into great FS lineage.
13.	George Teague 6-0/187	Sr.	Alabama	Can play anywhere in secondary.
14.	Mike Reid6-2/208	Jr.	North Carolina St.	Anchors annually superb group.
15.	Ray Buchanan 5-9/190	Sr.	Louisville	Rarely caught out of position.
Rk.	CORNERBACKS HL/WL	Class	School	Comment
1.	Walter Bailey 5-11/190	Sr.	Washington	Stylish, cocky, and good.
2.	Carlton Gray 6-0/183	Sr.	UCLA	Closes on the ball in a flash.
3.	Ryan McNeil 6-2/188	Sr.	Miami (Fla.)	Shuts down top opposing receiver.
4.	Jimmy Young 5-11/188	Jr.	Purdue	Stride for stride, he gets it done.
5.	Tom Carter 5-11/184	Jr.	Notre Dame	No one has more long-range potential.
6.	Deon Figures 6-1/195	Sr.	Colorado	Thrives on a coverage island.
7.	Sebastian Savage 5-11/187	Sr.	North Carolina St.	Has all angles covered.
8.	Antonio Langham 6-1/166	Jr.	Alabama	Top cover man in SEC.
9.	Carlton McDonald6-0/185	Sr.	Air Force	Takes on best in pass-happy WAC.
10.	Larry Kennedy 5- 10/ 180	Soph.	Florida	Has skills to top this list in '93.
11.	Jason Oliver 5-11/190	Jr.	Southern California	Dismantled Penn State in '91.
12.	Wolf Barber 6-0/ 185	Sr.	California	Big-time cover guy improving rapidly.
13.	Paul Wallace 6- 1/200	Sr.	Wyoming	Stumbled through 1991 but has ability.
14.	Darnell Walker 5-8/166	Sr.	Oklahoma	He'll come up and smack you, too.
15.	Kevin Miniefield 5-9/177	Sr.	Arizona State	Being counted on by new staff.



P + 0 = S: Versatile Qadry Ismail proves his formula for success has the right mix.

SPECIAL TEAMS

		• • •		LAMO
Rk.	KICKERS Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
1.	Jason Elam 5-11/185	Sr.	Hawaii	19 of 24 FGA, 85 points.
2.	Eric Lange 6-0/180	Sr.	Tulsa	16 of 19 FGA, 75 points.
3.	Dan Eichloff 6-0/215	Jr.	Kansas	18 of 24 FGA, 85 points.
4.	Doug Brien 6-0/170	Jr.	California	19 of 28 FGA, 98 points.
5.	John Biskup 5-9/187	Sr.	Syracuse	17 of 22 FGA, 85 points.
6.	Nelson Welch 5-8/ 182	Soph.	Clemson	17 of 26 FGA, 81 points.
7.	Scott Sisson 6- 1/ 197	Sr.	Georgia Tech	11 of 17 FGA, 63 points.
8.	Mike Green 5-11/212	Jr.	Wake Forest	14 of 19 FGA, 61 points.
9.	Jeff Jacke6-0/190	Sr.	Missouri	11 of 14 FGA, 50 points.
10.	Pedro Suarez 5- 10/ 170	Sr.	Louisiana State	13 of 19 FGA, 59 points.
Rk.	PUNTERS Ht./Wt.	Class	School	Comment
1.	Shayne Edge 5-11/170	Soph.	Florida	43.3-yard average, 46 punts.
2.	Dan Eichloff 6-0/215	Jr.	Kansas	42.3-yard average, 54 punts.
3.	Pete Raether 6-4/205	Sr.	Arkansas	43.6-yard average, 65 punts.
4.	Pat O'Neill 6- 1/ 189	Jr.	Syracuse	42-yard average, 45 punts.
5.	Mitch Berger 6-3/215	Jr.	Colorado	40.8-yard average, 58 punts.
6.	Jeff Buffaloe 6-0/195	Sr.	Memphis State	42.3-yard average, 50 punts.
7.	David Lawrence 6-4/212		Vanderbilt	42.7-yard average, 54 punts.
8.	Jason Elam 5- 11/ 185	Sr.	Hawaii	42.1-yard average, 18 punts.
9.	Mike Stigge	Sr.	Nebraska	42-yard average, 39 punts.
10.		Sr.	California	40-yard average, 44 punts.
N	OTE: Craig Hentrich of Notre Dame not	listed d	ue to injury.	
Rk.	ALL-PURPOSE/RETURN MEN HL/WL	Class	School	Comment
1.	0.J. McDuffie (WR)5-10/185	Sr.	Penn State	Acrobat who makes 'em miss.
2.	Kevin Williams (WR)5-9/185	Jr.	Miami (Fla.)	Nation's most exciting player.
3.	David Palmer (WR)5-9/170	Soph.		Returned three punts for TDs in '91.
4.	Ryan Benjamin (RB)5-7/174	Sr.	Pacific	Averaged 250 yards a game in '91.
5.	Beno Bryant (TB)5-11/178	Sr.	Washington	Returned four punts for TDs in career.
6.	Qadry Ismail (WR)6-0/192	Sr.	Syracuse	Missile is ready to take off.
7.	Glyn Milburn (RB)5-9/175	Sr.	Stanford	Walsh will put him in open field.
8.	Charles Levy (QB/RB)6-0/197	Soph.		Does it all for Wildcats.
9.		Sr.	Wake Forest	Deacon of special teams.
10.	Bo Campbell (WR)5-11/184	Sr.	Virginia Tech	Led nation in punt returns (18.2).

Syracuse aims 'Missile' attack at 1992 foes

By BILL DOHERTY Free-lance writer

uccess.

Americans will do anything to achieve it. Self-help books. Pilgrimages. Positive-thinking tapes.

For Syracuse's Qadry Ismail, the key was revealed before his junior year while he was watching a television special on football's greatest wide receivers. Somewhere between Paul Warfield and Art Monk, it came to him in the form of an equation.

"P" plus "O" equals "S."

"I came up with it myself," Ismail said. "The show talked about how Paul Warfield had a tremendous ability to block everything out and just concentrate on catching the football.

"As the show continued, they asked Warfield why he was successful. He said the key was preparation. Whether it was off-season workouts or practice sessions during the season, he said that he prepared as hard as he could."

"P" is preparation.

Then Ismail started to think about why he hadn't been successful in his first two years at Syracuse. When the brother of Raghib (Rocket) Ismail really thought about it, he zeroed in on a lack of opportunity. While he averaged 22.4 yards per kickoff return as a freshman, he sat behind Syracuse standout wide receiver Rob Moore.

In his sophomore year, Ismail suffered a finger fracture and, as a result, was unable to catch a single pass for the second straight year. Talented and fast, all he needed was a chance.

"O" is opportunity.

If given the opportunity to play, Ismail reasoned that he could attain the "S" part of the formula, which is success. He was right.

Nicknamed the "Missile," the 6-foot, 192-pound Ismail caught 37 passes last year for 693 yards, ran the ball 12 times for 216 yards and returned 19 kickoffs for 475 yards. He averaged 125.8 all-purpose yards per game.

In a loss against then No. 1-ranked Florida State, Ismail scored on a 95yard kickoff return and a 44-yard reception on a flea-flicker play.

Like all great ones, Ismail knows that defensive coordinators and special-teams coaches will be looking for ways to shut him down. So he'll make one adjustment to his formula in 1992.

"I'll just square everything," Ismail said. ■

As Rice struggles to find its place in athletics, standout back Cobb is carving out his own niche

By JONATHAN FEIGEN Houston Chronicle

revor Cobb walked slowly to the center of Rice's Autry Court as the cheers escalated and surrounded him.

He looked a bit out of place on the basketball court, as muscle-bound football players often do. But he was there to be honored, as he was so often last winter, as the model of all that is good, right and proper in college athletics.

On this occasion, in the middle of the January football recruiting madness, the ceremony was trumped up a bit. It was a basketball halftime fete designed as much to remind the football recruiting prospects that Rice really does hold a membership in college football's "bigtime" sphere as to honor Rice's latest and greatest hero.

But soon the cheers were replaced by a chant. The words somehow captured both Rice's athletic impossible dreams and the school's own civil war about major-college sports' place on its highminded campus in Houston.

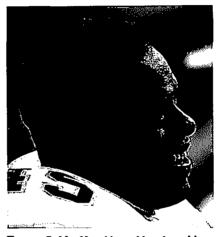
The crowd began chanting, "Heisman." Over and over again. "Heisman. Heisman."

Cobb had already collected the 1991 Doak Walker Award, the honor given to the nation's top junior or senior running back—as long as he does not cross the line of what a Southern Methodist committee (how's that for irony) considers proper behavior.

But winning the Heisman Trophy would be an incredible accomplishment. The Heisman usually goes to players from Michigan, Notre Dame and the like, not to players from Rice, a school with factions fighting to decide if it should even compete with big-time football programs.

"It's weird, isn't it?" Cobb said. "It's really weird. But maybe the timing is for a reason."

The timing is so deliciously perfect. Just when the school undergoes a Knight Commission-like self-examination of its place in college sports, a hero for both sides emerges. A program so long the doormat of the Southwest Conference finds itself a per-



Trevor Cobb: Humble and hard-working.

fect, humble, hard-working and deeply religious hero.

For those who believe Rice is on the verge of achieving its first winning season since 1963, there is Trevor Cobb. Cobb and his 1992 Heisman candidacy are proof to them that the Owls not only belong at the top level of college sports, but also can become successful.

For those who doubt Rice can win unless it compromises its ideals, there is Trevor Cobb. Naysayers believe Cobb's success is meaningless, the triumph of a player who entered Rice by a special invitation afforded almost exclusively to athletes.

And for the Rice fans and faculty still unsure of the school's role in major-college athletics, there is Trevor Cobb. Yes, he was accepted at Rice as a special admission, a policy that caters to athletes who are admitted with qualifications less than their classmates, but he's proving he belongs.

Cobb chose Rice because of the school's academic standards. He passed on overtures from the football factories. In his first meeting with Rice Coach Fred Goldsmith, Cobb said that he would have to work harder than other students to graduate with a degree from Rice, but that was what he wanted to do. Three years later he is on track to graduate in the fall of '93 with a wonderfully appropriate double major of sports management and religion.

And if Cobb continues to succeed on the field as he has in the classroom, it would help prove that big-time sports do belong at Rice.

"It'll say more when he walks across that stage and receives his diploma," Goldsmith said. "But I don't want to use Trevor in the politics of that situation."

Cobb appreciates that. But he hopes Rice will continue its commitment to major-college sports.

"That's what makes a university so great," Cobb said. "It has everything, it tries to be great in everything. You can't leave some of those things out. If you're going to do it, you should do it in all areas."

And to pursue greatness in football, Cobb reasoned, Rice must play at the NCAA Division I-A level. It must produce winners, and it will on occasion find itself with a Heisman candidate.

That Cobb has become that candidate, however, comes as something of an odd twist of fate.

Cobb was a star running back at J. Frank Dobie High School in Houston and a strong enough student to convince the Rice admissions people to admit him. But he was not alleverything on the football field. He was short and ran an average 4.6-second 40-yard dash. He was selected for the Texas high school all-star game, but he was moved to defensive back.

Midway through his freshman season, though, the Rice coaches knew they had someone special. Just as some running backs have natural strength or speed, Cobb has the innate ability to see things develop ahead of time and to reach top speed in a step. The Owls subsequently switched to a one-back set in Cobb's freshman season and sent him through the cracks and crevices in the line only he could see.

That strategy seems to have worked. After rushing for 545 yards as a freshman, he became Rice's first 1,000-yard rusher as a sophomore (1,325 yards). He eclipsed his sophomore numbers last season by rushing for 1,692 yards, making him the school's all-time leading rusher (3,562 yards) after only three seasons. Cobb also holds the Rice career records for rushing attempts (812),

touchdowns (28) and points (168). A strong senior campaign would put the SWC career rushing mark within reach, too. Cobb needs 1,450 yards to pass such immortals as Earl Campbell of Texas, Eric Dickerson of SMU and Darren Lewis of Texas A&M for the top spot.

Cobb has produced those numbers without benefit of a great offensive line or the threat of a passing game. In fact, every opponent focused on stopping Cobb last season, when Rice posted a modest 4-7 mark.

"He worries you to death," Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said.

"He's got great balance and tremendous vision," Texas Tech Coach Spike Dykes said. "Great backs come in all shapes, sizes and forms. He is truly one of the great backs in the United States.

"He's tough. And the amazing thing about him, the longer the game goes on, the more fatigued you'd think he is, the better he is."

It is that type of endurance that makes the 190-pound Cobb stand out in most games. With Rice leading and trying to run out the final two minutes of the clock against Tulane last year, Cobb carried the ball on second and 11. After gaining six yards, he suddenly cut back across the field and outran a series of defenders for 15 more yards and a first down. It was his 34th carry of the game. On the next play he scored on a 51-yard run.

"In practice, it's like boom, boom, boom," Cobb said. "For two hours, I'm running constantly, and when I'm running or catching the ball, I run an extra 50 yards downfield. It's something I'm used to. In game time, it's easier. You've got the adrenaline flowing, the anxiety."

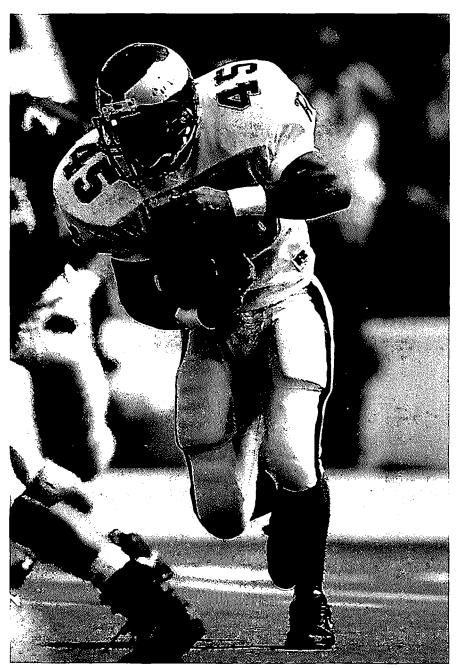
Cobb's considerable football talents are impressive, but some find his humble disposition even more so. It's no act for the media. When he won the Doak Walker, he was so stunned, he almost cried. He is sincere when he says he will enjoy the Heisman hype if it brings attention to Rice. And he still promises his primary goal is to be part of the class that brings football success to Rice.

"That's what I came here to do," he said. "To be remembered as one of the ones that turned it around.

"I'm still amazed by all this. You know, a guy my size, and I had some statistics in high school, but not that great. I just never dreamed of being in the position I'm in now."

If you think Cobb's pitch sounds rehearsed, well, you just have to meet him.

"You meet him and you talk to him and you feel refreshed," Dallas Cowboys scout Jeff Smith said. "He's a wonderful young man. He's a guy you want to make your football team just to be around the other players. I came away thinking to myself, 'There really is something good out there.' I came away feeling good, really good."



No kiddin': Rice—yes, Rice—boasts a true Heisman Trophy hopeful in durable Cobb.

PEEKING OUT FROM THE SHADOWS

Like Rice's Trevor Cobb, many players around the country are worthy of national recognition but, as yet, remain stars on more of a regional level, if they're famous at all. Such players fall into three general classifications: underexposed (they don't get the exposure they deserve), underappreciated (they are relatively well-known in some cases, but don't get the national credit they deserve) and underrated (they're better than you think). Following are lists of the top 10 players in each classification:

UNDEREXPOSED

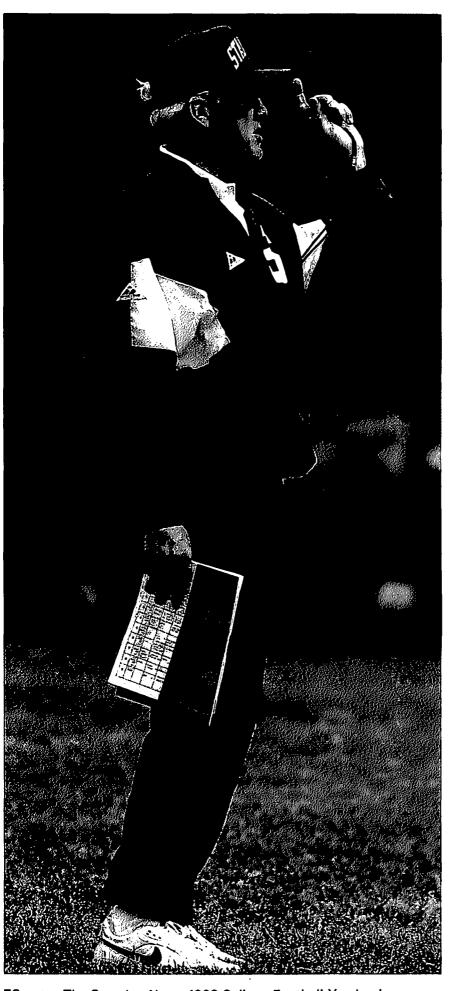
Mark DouBrava, FS, Iowa State Anthony McClanahan, LB, Wash. St. Mike McCrary, DE, Wake Forest Barry Minter, LB, Tulsa Marty Moore, LB, Kentucky Ron Rivers, TB, Fresno State Mark Szlachcic, WR, Bowling Green Wilbert Ursin, WR, Tulane Dan Williams, DE, Toledo Ryan Yarborough, WR, Wyoming

UNDERAPPRECIATED

Victor Bailey, WR, Missouri Brooks Barta, LB, Kansas State Trevor Cobb, RB, Rice Jason Davis, RB, Louisiana Tech Jason Gildon, DE, Oklahoma State Dana Howard, LB, Illinois Natrone Means, TB, North Carolina Darren Mickell, DE, Florida Mike Reid, SS, North Carolina State Tracy Saul, FS, Texas Tech

UNDERRATED

Kevin Battle, NG, Georgia Tech Brandon Bennett, RB, S. Carolina Gilbert Brown, DT, Kansas Rob Fredrickson, LB, Mich. St. Dave Garnett, LB, Stanford Tyrone Hughes, CB/WR, Neb. Thomas Lewis, WR, Indiana Ryan McCoy, LB, Houston Aaron Mundy, TE, Virginia Brett Wallerstedt, LB, Arizona St.



BACK ON THE

Walsh is feeling

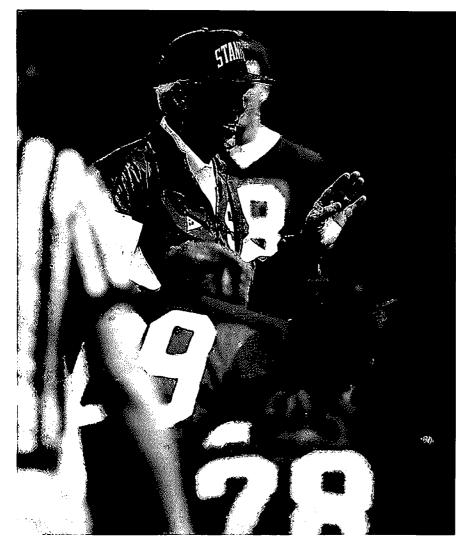
By MARK SOLTAU San Francisco Examiner

Ithough his new surroundings are far less extravagant than his old ones, Bill Walsh is a happy man. Thirteen years after leaving Stanford University to become head coach of the San Francisco 49ers, he is back in college football. Back, even, in Palo Alto.

Walsh coached the Cardinal for two seasons (1977 and '78) before leaving for the challenge—and eventual riches—of the National Football League. Walsh took a 49ers team that had not made the playoffs in six years and directed it to a Super Bowl championship in his third year on the job.

The 49ers won two more Super Bowls before Walsh retired after the 1989 season. Ironically, one of those victories came at Stanford Stadium on January 20, 1985, when the 49ers whipped

Bill Walsh: While in retirement, he missed the camaraderie between coaches, players.



Listen up, men: Walsh, an acknowledged coaching "genius" who has three Super Bowl victories to his credit, passes along words of wisdom to the Cardinal troops in spring drills.

his oats upon return to Stanford

Miami, 38-16, in Super Bowl XIX to win their second NFL championship. It is now Walsh's home field.

Walsh cited "burnout" as the reason he retired three years ago, and few people expected him to return to coaching. Why did he?

"I missed the camaraderie of the coaches and players immediately," said Walsh, who worked as an analyst for NBC after leaving the coaching ranks. "What I didn't miss was the pressure that had built up between me and the 49ers to win. It had become almost intolerable."

The pressure at Stanford, at least at first, shouldn't be nearly so great.

"I think there will be some pressure that I'll exert on myself, especially the second year," said Walsh, who signed a five-year contract worth a reported \$350,000 a year. He is returning to "The Farm" for the third time; he was Stanford's secondary coach and recruiting coordinator under John Ralston from 1963 through '65 before his two-year stint as head coach in the late 1970s.

Walsh's predecessor, Dennis Green, walked away from a team returning 18 starters when he left to coach the Minnesota Vikings. The best player Green left behind, tailback Glyn Milburn, did little to lower expectations upon Walsh's arrival.

"This is the biggest thing to happen at Stanford since Gorbachev came here," Milburn said on January 16, the day Walsh was hired.

"Any way you look at it, it's a tremendous gain for the Stanford football program," Southern California Coach Larry Smith said. "He will present a great coaching challenge for all of us in the Pac-10."

But whether Walsh can duplicate Stanford's 1991 success—an 8-4 record, the school's first winning season in five years—remains to be seen.

"I can't guarantee I'll do as well," Walsh said, "but I'm probably the best guy for the job. Denny brought it to a nationally ranked level (No. 17 in last season's final Associated Press poll). It's going to be up to Terry, myself and

others to sustain it and hopefully take it to one more level."

Terry Shea, the head coach at San Jose State the last two years, was the first person Walsh hired when he took the Stanford job. In fact, Shea was introduced at the same press conference held to announce Walsh's hiring. Shea's official title is assistant head coach/offensive coordinator.

It's interesting to note that Walsh hired four men who played for him in San Francisco—Tom Holmoe, Bill Ring, Keena Turner and Mike Wilson—as assistant coaches. Each will coach the same position he played professionally: Holmoe, the defensive backs; Ring, the running backs; Turner, the outside linebackers, and Wilson, the receivers.

Offensive line coach Scott Schuhmann, one of two holdovers from Green's staff, thinks Stanford's future is unlimited.

"I like the way it's coming together," he said. "I'm excited about it. He's going to pick up where Denny left off."

The other coaching holdover is Fred von Appen, who previously served under Walsh at both Stanford and San Francisco. von Appen, who will be the Cardinal's defensive coordinator and inside linebackers coach, has noticed a different Walsh from the one he last coached under in 1988.

"He's really enjoying himself," vonAppen said. "You know the pressure cooker (in the NFL)."

Although Milburn is back, Stanford's 1992 offense figures to emphasize passing more than running following the departure of All-America tackle Bob Whitfield and all-conference fullback Tommy Vardell.

"We're going to have to be a passing team this year," Walsh said. "That draws unfortunate attention to our receivers, who have no experience. That's going to be the critical point in any success we have—whether our receiver corps can develop."

When Stanford rehired Walsh, there was some concern about how well and how quickly he would fit in. Although his work on NBC's Notre Dame broadcasts last year reintroduced him to some facets of college life, he's 60 years old and hasn't coached college kids since 1978. They've changed, and so has he. His three Super Bowl rings command respect, but they also may serve to intimidate.

"I'm sure the image of me standing there will make them a little uneasy," said Walsh, whose overall record in 10 seasons with the 49ers was 102-63-1, including 10-4 in the postseason.

To expedite the process, Walsh wasted no time meeting with his players. He didn't mince words and displayed a wry sense of humor that caught most of them off-guard.

At his Stanford coming-out party, which was held in a gym to accom-

Continued

Milburn slips through line, not through cracks

By MARK SOLTAU San Francisco Examiner

hatever success Bill Walsh enjoys in his first season back at Stanford will depend greatly on the 18 returning starters who made Dennis Green's final year such a memorable one. And the most important returnee might be tailback Glyn Milburn.

Milburn enters his senior season feeling that he has a lot to prove. A year ago, Green called him the country's best running back and instructed Gary Migdol, the Cardinal's sports information director, to push the 5-foot-9, 175-pound all-purpose star for the Heisman Trophy. Migdol obliged by mailing out several flyers to the national media.

He needn't have bothered. Milburn sprained his right knee in Stanford's second game and favored it for several weeks. In the meantime, fullback Tommy Vardell became Stanford's workhorse. Originally pegged as a blocker and short-yardage runner, Vardell became a runaway freight train instead, rolling up 1,084 yards and a school-record 20 touchdowns in Stanford's 8-3 regular season.

In the meantime, Milburn found himself relegated to a secondary role. Needless to say, the change of events did little to build his confidence.

"The lowest point was after the Cornell game (Stanford's fifth game)," Milburn said. "I was told I would have to bounce back and have a good showing to achieve some of the goals I had set for the season. After the game I said, 'What's wrong with me?'"

One thing was that Milburn, who scored five touchdowns the previous year, hadn't scored any in '91.

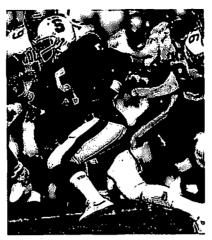
Green, who had given Milburn a pep talk before the Cornell game, spoke to him again after it. In Stanford's next game, at Southern California, Milburn responded by making a key reception in the Cardinal's 24-21 upset victory. Against Oregon State the following week, Milburn broke out of his scoring drought with four TDs.

What happened?

"I never doubted myself," he said.
"I was looking for someone to blame.
That's when I had to step back and say it's nothing I can control. Just play with confidence and not worry about circumstances."

Milburn's difficulties were eased somewhat because Stanford was winning. After losing three of its first four games, the Cardinal won seven straight, the school's longest winning streak in 40 years.

In retrospect, it might have been



Determined: Sooner or later, Glyn Milburn was going to bolt Oklahoma.

wise not to promote Milburn as a Heisman candidate. He is a shy person with boyish features who never felt comfortable with the added attention.

"We tried to distance him from it, but reporters were always asking him about it," said Migdol, who canned the flyers after only three weeks.

The story of Milburn's long-winding trek to Stanford could fill a few flyers itself. After setting a California high school record by rushing for 2,718 yards at Santa Monica High in 1987, Milburn signed a letter-of-intent to attend Stanford in 1988. However, because Milburn was only 16, the letter needed a parent's approval. His stepfather, who wanted Glyn to attend Oklahoma, wouldn't give it. So, Milburn's first year of college was spent in Norman, Okla., not Palo Alto, Calif.

After returning punts and kickoffs for the Sooners as a true freshman in 1988, however, Milburn decided to return to his home state.

"I wanted to make Oklahoma a positive experience," he said, "but I feit I made a mistake in going there. I kept thinking of ways to get to Stanford."

Stanford certainly suits him better academically. In an interview that appeared in THE SPORTING NEWS early last fall, Milburn emphasized that his decision to leave Oklahoma had more to do with the books than with a ball.

"I guess the opportunity is there at Oklahoma to excel in academics if you want," he said. "But there's also the opportunity to not excel in academics, if you want to make that choice. For somebody who is motivated, there is the opportunity to study. For somebody who isn't, there is the opportunity to slip through the cracks."

Milburn has found his niche—both academically and athletically—at Stanford. A public policy major, he has been voted to the Pacific-10 Con-

ference's All-Academic first team twice, maintains a grade-point average above 3.0 and is on schedule to graduate in December. Last spring, he was among four students whose ticket narrowly missed election to the university's Council of Presidents' student government committee.

After sitting out the 1989 football season as a transfer student, Milburn earned all-conference honors in 1990, when he led NCAA Division I-A in all-purpose yardage (2,222). And with Green and Vardell now in the National Football League and Walsh running the show at Stanford, Milburn's stock should rise again.

"He's going to be the centerpiece of the offense," Walsh said. "He knows that and the team knows that. It will be up to us to choose how to use his abilities."

Walsh envisions Milburn as a latterday Darrin Nelson, who became a multipurpose star during Walsh's previous tenure at Stanford. He wants Milburn to carry the ball 15 to 20 times per game and catch five to 10 passes with averages of about five yards per rush and 10 yards per reception.

"He's not going to be a workhorse," Walsh said. "But he's always going to be producing over 100 yards a game."

Barring injury, that shouldn't be a problem. Milburn has averaged 169.8 all-purpose yards per game in his two seasons on The Farm. He also figures to get plenty of work returning punts and kickoffs, duties he has handled well in the past.

"I can't believe there is anyone more electrifying in college football," Washington Coach Don James said. "He's the Rocket (Ismail) of the Pac-10."

Milburn is ecstatic about playing for Walsh.

"I'm definitely excited about my role," he said. "(Walsh is) a proven legend.... I'm ready to do whatever they want."

But without a proven fullback to worry about, opposing defenses figure to key on Milburn, who has recovered fully from last season's knee sprain.

"Milburn's going to have to demonstrate his durability and ability to play every week," Walsh said.

As for hype, Stanford is touting Milburn as an All-America candidate. So far, no one has mentioned the Heisman. That's fine with Milburn.

"I'm not really going to worry about that," he said. "This being my last year, I know there's good football ahead of me. If I get one catch a game, I'm going to try to make it the best one I can."

Rest assured, he'll get more than just one. ■

FARM

modate more than 500 media types and well-wishers (including 49ers Owner Edward DeBartolo Jr., Coach George Seifert and longtime 49ers running back Roger Craig), Walsh explained his return to coaching.

"I thought of it peripherally a year ago with some NFL franchises, but it wasn't right," he said. "This is. This has redeeming value—unless it's USC."

As for recruiting—a task Walsh supposedly disdained in his first stint as Stanford coach—he recalled previous experiences in which he was greeted in homes of prospective players with "homemade cookies, ice milk and the dog that searches every part of your anatomy."

There was no rustiness in Walsh's recruiting last spring. Despite his late start, Walsh compiled a group that is rated by many among the top 20 in the nation.

"Those people who weren't that well-read about what it takes to be a college coach thought I could come back and be an image or figure and that would attract athletes," Walsh said. "In reality, I knew taking the job I'd have to recruit exactly as all the other head coaches in the U.S. There just isn't any way you

can delegate that."

Walsh's involvement in the intimacies of recruiting came as no surprise to Holmoe, who played six seasons for him in San Francisco.

"There wasn't a detail that went by him," Holmoe said. "It wasn't just X's and O's. Every aspect of the organization was under scrutiny. From the way we played to the way our summer camp was to the way our employees acted, it was all part of a master plan."

Despite his success, Walsh is anything but cocky. With Southern Cal's Smith, Washington's Don James, UCLA's Terry Donahue, Oregon's Rich Brooks and Arizona State's Bruce Snyder all in the Pacific-10 Conference, Walsh knows he'll be competing head-to-head with many of college football's brightest coaches.

"There's a lot of sophistication and professionalism among the established coaches, as much or more so than NFL coaches," Walsh said. "Any one of these guys could be successful NFL coaches."

Stanford already has reaped benefits from Walsh's hiring. The Cardinal has been selected to play Texas A&M in the Pigskin Classic on August 26 at Anaheim, Calif., an appearance that will net the school a minimum of \$600,000. In addition, more than 3,000 new season tickets have been sold, and a new football facility and locker room are being

built.

Just as important, Walsh already has won over many Stanford alumni and hoosters.

"We were looking for Moses to lead us out of the muck and mire," longtime follower Paul Cardoza said, "and we got God."

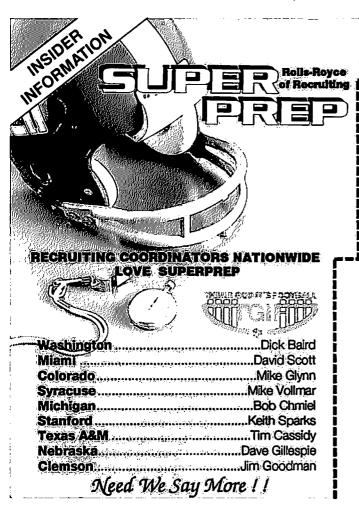
"We have so much momentum," said Dan Elliott of Newport Beach, a member of the class of '53. "Bill is the icing on the cake to make it one of the most successful programs in the country."

Stanford supporters long for a return to the Rose Bowl, a game the Cardinal has not played in since beating Michigan, 13-12, on January 1, 1972.

However, for Walsh, the goal is much simpler: to get the most out of his players. If that translates into a Pac-10 championship and Rose Bowl berth, so much the better.

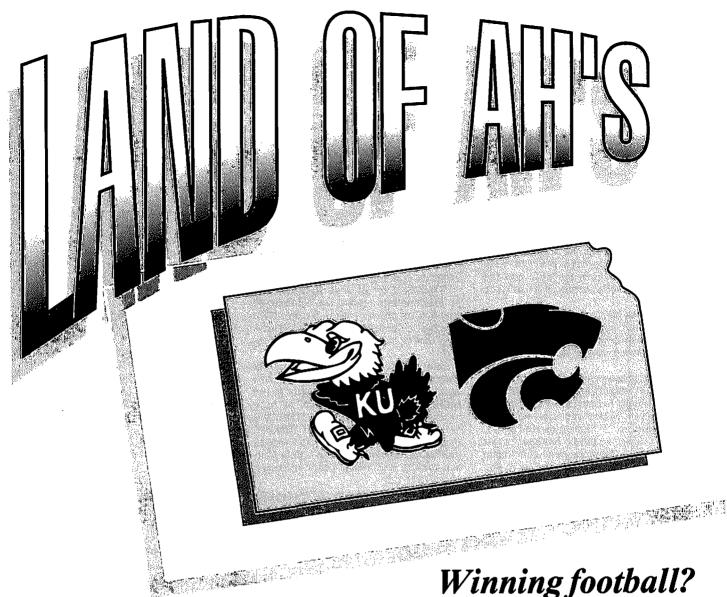
"The bottom line for me is that players reach their full potential," he said. "If that means we're in the Top 15 every year—which I think we can be—that's it. If we can somehow go undefeated, that's fine. The key is to reach their full potential. That's going to be my job."

Said Milburn: "Any time you hear Bill Walsh, you think of Super Bowl champions, team of the '80s. He's no longer the 49ers' coach; he's Stanford's coach. He's going to have to depend on us to do the job. We'll all go the distance with him."



FOR HOT NATIONAL RECRUITING INFORMATION SuperPrep's Allen Wallace provides Info: (\$1.49 EACH MINUTE) CALL 1-900-860-8500 & 1-900-740-7737

☐ Plea	achine! se FAX to me your '92-'93 SUPEF	RFA	X service: 23 FAX	(
recruitin	ng reports (1 in late November, 4 in 18 from mid-January until Letter-o	n D	ecember) — early	•
FAX NUMBE	₹			•
PHONE NU	MBER			•
BNC	OSED IS MY CHECK FOR \$69.00 • ORDER B			-
☐ Plea	ase send me the August 1992 p	re-	season issue, th	-
Januar March residen postag	y 1993 All-American pre-sign Letter-of-Intent issue for onts add \$4.57 sales tax) which	nin oniy	g issue and th / \$59.00 (Cali	e f. s
Januar March residen postage re-	y 1993 All-American pre-sigi Letter-of-Intent issue for onts add \$4.57 sales tax) which e.	nin oniy	g issue and th / \$59.00 (Cali cludes first clas	e f. s
Januar March residen postage re-	y 1993 All-American pre-sigi Letter-of-Intent issue for onts add \$4.57 sales tax) which e.	ning only ind	g issue and th / \$59.00 (Cali cludes first clas	e f. s
Januar March residen postagr re- NAME ADDRESS CITY	ry 1993 All-American pre-sign Letter-of-Intent issue for onts add \$4.57 sales tax) which e. subscriber	ning only o inc	g issue and the SS9.00 (Caliberate Caliberate Caliberat	e f. s



This can't possibly be Kansas — but, at last, it is

By BLAIR KERKHOFF Kansas City Star

len Mason can't say he wasn't warned.
Soon after Mason's Kent State

football team had beaten Kansas early in the 1987 season, the coach received a clipping from a Kansas newspaper.

"It said something like 'the answer to football in Kansas was to abolish it,' " Mason remembered.

At the time, a statewide wreckingball solution was not without merit. After all, Kansas and Kansas State were having a devil of a time competing in the Big Eight Conference. And Wichita State, the state's third NCAA Division I-A program, had dropped football after going 3-8 in 1986.

Of course, closing shop at Kansas and Kansas State was never seriously considered. In '87, though, maybe it should have been.

On the day that Mason's Golden

Flashes handled the Kansas Jayhawks, 31-17, in Lawrence, Army throttled the Kansas State Wildcats, 41-14, in Manhattan. So, the state's two remaining I-A programs had lost once more—to less-than-marquee-name opponents. And at home, too.

So what else was new? In the long history of college football in the state of Kansas, it was a business-as-usual afternoon. Indeed, the litany of losing seasons seemed as if it would drone on unabated.

The longest day in the state's football annals, though, surely was November 7, 1987. It was Kansas, 1-7 and coming off a 61-point loss at home against Oklahoma, vs. Kansas State, 0-8 and trying to rebound from a 49-point defeat at Oklahoma State. So what do you suppose transpired that afternoon at KSU Stadium?

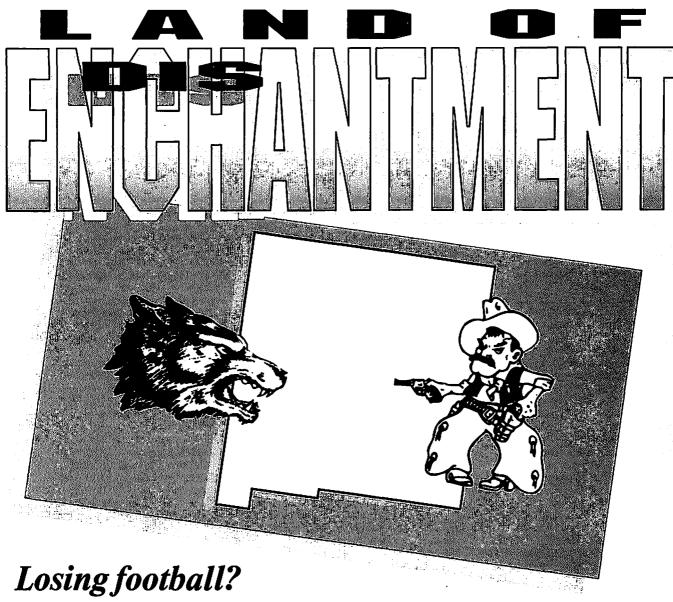
You guessed it. The bitter rivals went out and, fittingly enough, played to a tie. As a non-loss, the 17-17 outcome was a triumph of sorts for both sides as Kansas went on to finish the season with a 1-9-1 record and Kansas State wound up at 0-10-1. One victory in 22 outings pretty much said it all about the Sunflower State's sad state of affairs on the football field.

Enter Mason at Kansas in 1988 and, one year later, Bill Snyder at Kansas State. Longtime assistants at Big Ten Conference schools, they yearned to mold their own programs—even if it meant taking two of the worst head-coaching jobs in the land.

Clearly, what both have accomplished since has been amazing. With a 6-5 finish in 1991, Kansas posted its first winning record in 10 years and, in another measure of progress, disappointed its followers in the process. The Jayhawks led or were tied at halftime in 10 games, and they gave away two games in the final three minutes.

Even more remarkable, however, was Kansas State's '91 season. The

Continued on Page 58



This must be New Mexico — where oases are rare

By PHILL CASAUS Albuquerque Journal

he desert, which reveals few secrets and leaves no traces, is a perfect background for the parched football programs at New Mexico and New Mexico State.

Bone dry? Barren? Bad? Buddy, you just wouldn't believe it. Come autumn, when college stadiums around the country rock with Saturday excitement, New Mexico becomes the Land of Disenchantment—a painful but accurate twist on the state's motto.

Put more simply: College football, NCAA Division I-A style, does not flourish in the state of New Mexico.

"When I first looked at the job, I just said no way," recalled New Mexico State's 55-year-old Jim Hess, reflecting on the Aggles' coaching position that he accepted after the 1989 season. "But hell, at the age I am, I guess I didn't have too much to lose."

"Lose" is a word New Mexicans know all too well when it comes to the football accomplishments—or lack of same—of the New Mexico Lobos and the New Mexico State Aggies. In the last decade, the two teams have combined for exactly one winning season—an almost-mythical 10-1 record compiled by the Lobos in 1982 under the direction of the late Joe Morrison.

The magic didn't last. Morrison, the Lobos' coach for only three years (1980 through '82), bolted Albuquerque for South Carolina, where the pastures were greener and the greenbacks more plentiful. Soon, New Mexico was back to where it almost always has been: hanging on for dear life.

It's not just mere defeat that weighs heavily upon the state's only two I-A universities. It's the spectacular manner in which they fail. In 1988, for example, New Mexico suffered five losses by 47 or more points. In 1982, New Mexico State allowed 677 yards rushing—a I-A record at the time—in a 68-0 loss to

Nebraska.

The numbers only get more staggering. In the last five seasons, New Mexico has gone 9-50—with four of those victories coming against New Mexico State. The Aggies' record over the same stretch is 6-49, and their last winning season was achieved in 1978 (a modest 6-5 mark). In the last eight seasons, the Aggies have lost 78 of 88 games. And as down as the Lobos have been, New Mexico State has managed only one victory over New Mexico in the last 15 years.

"It's just extremely frustrating," said Fred Mady, a former Lobos defensive lineman and a one-time Aggles graduate assistant. "In the position I'm in now (as a sales representative), people always want to talk about the Lobos and Aggies—about why they don't win. I'm always talking about my brother, who plays at Iowa. We're all Division I, but really, it's another level."

Continued on Page 59



Wildcats' overall record of 7-4 was their best in 39 years. And their 4-3 Big Eight Conference mark was the school's best since 1970.

Kansas State's most impressive effort last year was a 38-31 midseason loss at Nebraska, a game in which the Wildcats led the Cornhuskers midway through the final quarter. At that juncture, Kansas State had an opportunity to build a 10-point edge, but a short field-goal attempt failed. Like Kansas, the Wildcats' season ended in a mixture of glee and gloom.

"The players, coaching staff and myself were truly disappointed that we didn't do better," Snyder said.

From the depths of despair, college football in Kansas has risen to a level of respectability and competitiveness—and it has done so probably long before either program could reasonably have expected. After finishing with winning records in the same season for the first time in 58 years, Kansas State and Kansas head into 1992 talking bowl bids and aiming for upper-tier positions in the Big Eight race.

Credit Snyder and Mason, who shared the Big Eight's Coach of the



Year honor in 1991. Three and four years ago, they seemingly committed professional suicide by venturing into college football's no-man's land: the state of Kansas.

* * *

For Glen Mason, becoming Kansas' football coach was like walking into a house that appeared normal on the outside but was gutted on the inside.

Kansas had some natural selling points, like tradition, to attract a coach. Such luminaries as Gale Sayers, John Hadl, Nolan Cromwell and John Riggins have come through the program. The Memorial Stadium setting is picturesque, unlike many in the Midwest.

Mason saw something else he liked upon his initial observation.

"When I played them in 1987, I remember thinking Kansas had a lot of good-sized players," Mason said. "They didn't play very well, but they were big. What I didn't realize, nearly all of them were seniors."

In finding replacements, Mason discovered firsthand precisely how poorly the Kansas program was regarded by most recruits. Even among the few Division I-A prospects in Kansas, Mason wasn't well-received.

"I couldn't even get kids to visit," Mason recalled. "I didn't know what was going on."

Mason, a member of the Ohio State coaching staff for eight seasons before moving on to Kent State for two years, patched together his first recruiting class with plenty of quick-fixes and some overachievers who had few other I-A offers. Among the latter was 5-foot-6 tailback Tony Sands from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., who in his final game last season rushed for an NCAA-record 396 yards against Missouri.

Since Kansas isn't a hotbed of high school football, Mason has had to recruit other areas very hard. And, after that initial lack of success anywhere with its recruiting forays, Kansas is now doing well in areas where Mason has the most familiarity—the Great Lakes region, for example. Two Jayhawk standouts on defense—lineman Dana Stubblefield and secondary man Hassan Bailey—are from Ohio.

Recruiting wasn't the only major problem that Mason inherited. In his first season at Kansas, he discovered that the perception of the program had to change if the Jayhawks were really serious about landing decent players.

"The first year we played Kansas State, the sentiment around the state was as if it was an embarrassment to be associated with the game," Mason said of the 1988 Jayhawks-Wildcats clash. "People were embarrassed to say they went to the game. I took the opposite view.

"I said games like this were healthy

7-4 but they want more: Kansas State's Jim Snyder and his team weren't satisfied with the school's best record in 39 years.

for college football. Both teams were really hurting (each had a 0-8 record), but you had two sides preparing as hard as they could, two coaching staffs preparing as hard as they could."

Kansas won that game, 30-12. It would be the only victory for either side in '88. The Jayhawks had the nation's worst-rated defense that year, which wasn't a shocking development under the circumstances.

"We moved a second-team center to defensive end, and two days later he starts," Mason said. "We moved a tight end to linebacker, and two days later he starts against Nebraska. But I had no choice."

The results were gruesome. In '88, Kansas surrendered 52 or more points six times. The Jayhawks even lost to New Mexico State, providing the Aggles with their last victory before the onset of a 27-game losing streak.

Mason maintained his sanity by looking only occasionally at the scoreboard, which every Saturday was lit up like a pinball machine.

"Those first years, I couldn't get wrapped up in wins and losses because I knew we weren't going to be too good," Mason said. "I looked for effort and I looked for coaching. Were we doing our jobs? Were we lining up right? Did we have 11 men on the field? Are we letting the play clock run down?"

Victories began trickling in during Mason's second season, when the Jayhawks won four of 11 games overall while playing a watered-down nonconference schedule. Chances at another victory or two got away, but Mason knew Kansas was making progress when he started hearing gripes.

"That first year, I remember thinking I wish somebody would complain because then I'd know they were paying attention to us," Mason said. "That first year, I got a lot of 'You're doing a great job,' but I wished people had complained."

Mason got his wish in a big way last season, when the Jayhawks blew late leads that probably cost them a bowl game. Two games stand out. At Colorado, the Jayhawks led the Buffaloes, 24-23, with three minutes left and had the ball on the Buffs' 34-yard line. A third-and-four play netted one yard and then, on fourth down, Kansas punted into the end zone. Colorado proceeded to march 80 yards for the winning score.

The killer came earlier in the year. Kansas led Kansas State, 12-3, and had the ball on the Wildcats' 7 with nine minutes to play. But the Jayhawks failed on fourth and one, and Kansas State stormed back for a 16-12 victory. After the season, a Freedom Bowl scout said that outcome had kept the Jayhawks from being the leading contender for the Anaheim, Calif., postseason game.



The depths to which football has sunk in New Mexico became apparent last fall, when the Lobos were humiliated by Fresno State to the tune of 94-17. If there is a rock-bottom in college football, the Lobos found it on that balmy California night.

"It was a nightmare," Lobos quarterback Marcus Goodloe recalled.

Although the Lobos finished the 1991 season with two victories in their last three games, including an ambush of bowl-bound Air Force, the Fresno State debacle virtually assured the eventual ouster of Mike Sheppard—a young, talented dreamer who pinned his survival as coach on a five-year plan that never quite materialized.

A few weeks after Sheppard's dismissal, another young and talented coach, Dennis Franchione, arrived with yet another five-year blueprint he hopes will get New Mexico to respectability.

"When I got here, I got the feeling that their self-esteem was down," said the diplomatic Franchione, who had

been coach at Southwest Texas State.

Just how football became a state embarrassment remains a hot issue. And at times, it becomes even poignant, because football wasn't always awful in New Mexico.

In the early 1960s, New Mexico and New Mexico State were respected regional powers. The Aggies, based in Las Cruces, went to the Sun Bowl in 1959 and 1960, with future pro standout Charley Johnson as their quarterback.

At the same time, the Lobos also traveled to a postseason game—the 1961 Aviation Bowl. Plus, much to the disbelief of virtually any state resident born after, say, the Kennedy Administration, New Mexico captured consecutive Western Athletic Conference titles from 1962 through 1964. In the late 1950s, the Marv Levy-coached Lobos boasted the services of running back Don Perkins, who went on to a fine career with the Dallas Cowboys.

Nevertheless, those were different days and different ways. New Mexico and New Mexico State were perfect for the one-platoon era of college football, when depth wasn't as huge a consideration as it is today.

Unlike other schools in the region, neither New Mexico nor New Mexico State made the commitment to the realities of the two-platoon game until they had been overtaken. As both programs began to fully unravel in the 1980s, they slowly fell behind in the number of scholarship players on the roster.

"You could say both schools were great in the '60s, average in the '70s, terrible in the '80s," New Mexico State Athletic Director Al Gonzales said. "You go back, and we're pretty side-by-side."

The Lobos' and Aggies' myriad problems reached a critical stage by the middle of the '80s, with coaches at both schools finding themselves dealing with only 55 to 60 players. The numbers crunch has plagued them ever since.

"I've seen so many guys quit," New Mexico senior Scott Creagan lamented. "And that just kills us with depth."

Despite their shaky histories, the New Mexico schools retain a ray of hope. But with both programs continually fighting the blind-side hits of no tangible tradition, brutal scheduling, an almost non-existent recruiting base, mediocre-to-poor facilities and a lack of money, the way to improvement is a lot like the state's roads: long and difficult.

New Mexico's problems are a major topic in Albuquerque, the state's largest city and media center. The Lobos,

The way they were: Three decades ago, New Mexico and New Mexico State were regional powers. The Lobos boasted an outstanding running back in Don Perkins (left), while the Aggies rode to success on the arm of quarterback Charley Johnson.

who play in a 30,000-seat stadium that has never been sold out in its 30-year history, are 10 to 15 years behind their WAC rivals in terms of locker and weight-room facilities. Successive coaching staffs blame this minus for New Mexico's inability to get—and keep—top recruits.

"I was at a four-year NAIA school (Western New Mexico) before I transferred here, and the facilities are about the same," Lobos linebacker Jesse Becton said. "And I think, 'Wait a minute.'"

On the bright side, the wait could be over. New Mexico's state legislature has appropriated \$1.5 million toward a renovation that eventually could give the Lobos a new "football-plex" and a 60,000-seat stadium.

But the catch—and there always is one—is a provision that will tie state money to New Mexico's ability to raise another \$2 million on its own.

New Mexico State, which competes in the Big West Conference, had similar problems until last fall, when a local company donated \$550,000 in money and materials for a new weight room that Hess hopes can improve the Aggies' recruiting.

In the end, Hess contends, money and facilities are the only two things that can turn around both schools.

"See, the philosophy has changed so many times that there really hasn't been one," Hess said. "... You can't make as many changes in coaches, assistant coaches and whatever. Sooner or later, someone at the top says, 'This

Continued on Page 61





Mason, whose Jayhawks won a total of seven games in 1989 and 1990 after that one-conquest season of 1988, expects continued success. Working under the premise that a coach is only as good as his players, Mason can't overestimate the importance of selling his program. On the heels of last season's six-victory effort—which included a triumph over a Tulsa team that finished 9-2—the sell should come

Kansas' Glen Mason: While, alas, he can't lure recruits with an ocean, mountains or warm weather, Mason can offer a vastly improved football program.



easier wherever Mason and his associates seek out recruits.

"There are, on the average, 10 to 12 Division I players in our state every year," said Mason, alluding to the meager high school talent in Kansas. "We have to recruit away from home. When we do, we have to tell them there's no ocean or mountains, no warm weather or ski slopes."

What Lawrence now has to offer, though, is a vastly improved football program. For more and more athletes, playing in the powerful Big Eight with an up-and-coming team is just what the doctor, er, Glen Mason, ordered.

* * *

The facilities needed an overhaul, the team was overscheduled and apathy ran high. As he walked into the abyss of Kansas State football in 1989, longtime Iowa assistant coach Bill Snyder knew full well the obstacles that had made the Wildcats' program one of the losingest in the nation.

What caught Snyder completely offstride was the team's morale. He didn't expect to find euphoria—Kansas State, after all, had compiled a 3-40-1 record in the previous four seasons under three coaches—but he was startled to find utter despair. These were football players utterly without hope.

"It was a beaten-back group of young people," Snyder said. "They had lost enthusiasm for the game, lost their ability to feel confident, and my fear was that the failure they experienced in college football was going to affect them for a long time."

Snyder's observations were gleaned in a one-hour meeting he conducted after the news conference to announce his hiring. It wasn't the returning players with whom Snyder met; instead, it was the outgoing group of seniors who would never play for him.

"It was like kindergarten. Everybody wanted a chance to talk about the program," Snyder said. "The information they gave me was extremely valuable."

Changing the mind-set of his players was Snyder's first order of business. In the Wildcats' fourth game under Snyder's direction, Kansas State ended a 30-game winless streak by downing North Texas, 20-17. While that would be the Wildcats' only victory of the '89 season, the following year would tell a different story. Snyder's team won five of 11 games in 1990 and even notched two Big Eight triumphs (Kansas State's first in four years).

The cupboard wasn't entirely bare when Snyder arrived. He inherited a few solid skill-position players, like wide receiver Michael Smith, who caught 70 passes as a sophomore and finished last season as the third-leading pass catcher in Big Eight history.

But there were too few such performers, and, in Snyder's first year, hardly any depth among the linemen. In a 1989 game at Nebraska, Kansas State got down to its last offensive lineman. "Everyone who could play was on the

field," Snyder recalled.

Why make the move from the security of an assistant's job at Iowa to the top job at Kansas State in the first place?

Most of all, Snyder placed his trust in the Kansas State administration to provide him with the necessary tools.

"I can't tell you that I saw all the things that needed to be in place when I got here," Snyder said. "But I had assurances things would be in place. I'm a Midwesterner, and I put faith in Midwestern people when they assured me things would be in place to help this program.

"If everything had been in place over the last few years and they had lost 30 games in a row, I doubt I would have considered coming here."

Kansas State upgraded its facilities, increased the program's budget and expanded its recruiting (Snyder has established a beachhead of sorts in Florida, which produced Wildcats running back Eric Gallon, a 1,102-yard rusher in '91). The team played on new artificial turf last season, courtesy of booster Dave Wagner of Dodge City, Kan., who donated the gift after winning \$35 million in Lotto America.

Snyder also applied some softener to the schedule. Off went Florida and Wyoming from the 1991 schedule, as well as all future non-conference heavyweights. However, Kansas State was hurt by playing two Division I-AA opponents, Indiana State and Idaho State, last season. Victories over those two teams didn't count in the eyes of the bowls, for whom six triumphs over Division I-A teams is a prerequisite. By the time the Wildcats lost their fourth game, in the eighth week of the season, they were mathematically eliminated from bowl contention.

Regardless, folks in and around Manhattan are quite pleased by the goingson under Snyder—and were from the start.

"He showed me right away he'd be a great coach because he cared for the players," said Erick Harper, a senior strong safety during Snyder's first year. "Right away, we practiced a lot harder because you didn't play if you didn't practice hard. Of all the coaches I've had, position coaches and head coaches, he was the best."

* * *

College football has never weighed too heavily on the collective mind of the Kansas populace. For starters, basketball established roots earlier and continues to grip the state. While spring football might be the second-most important sport on some campuses, football in Kansas competes with news of basketball recruitment.

Still, Mason and Snyder reject the notion that there is a ceiling on their programs' potential. After all, Kansas State nearly won at Nebraska last season and Kansas let Colorado slip away with a victory at Boulder. The Cornhuskers and Buffaloes wound up shar-

60 * The Sporting News 1992 College Football Yearbook

ing the Big Eight championship.

Kansas last finished atop the conference in 1968, when it tied Oklahoma for the title. Kansas State's lone league crown came in 1934, when the conference was known as the Big Six.

"We've taken a big step," Snyder said of the Wildcats. "We're able to compete in this conference."

The schools' administrations also have taken big steps. Snyder's contract was renegotiated after the 1990 season, and Kansas has offered Mason an extension.

"I'm the 33rd coach, and they've been playing football here for 101 years," Mason said. "What does that tell you?"

It says contracts are rarely renewed in Lawrence. The same is true at Manhattan, where the previous eight coaches had been fired (as opposed to moving up the coaching ladder).

It's unreasonable to expect that both Mason and Snyder will finish their coaching careers at Kansas and Kansas State, respectively. They figure to receive offers from high-profile schools and, in time, move on.

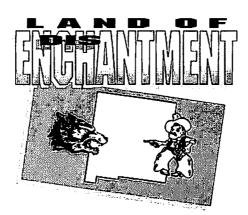
In fact, schools have contacted Snyder about various coaching vacancies, but there's a feeling that only the Iowa job really entices him.

"It's only a perception," Snyder said.
"I guarantee you virtually everybody in
Kansas thinks about that (the possibility that he might someday replace Hayden Fry at Iowa) more than I do."

Mason spoke with Minnesota officials in December about the Gophers' coaching position and was heartened by the reaction of Jayhawk fans, who implored him to stay at Kansas.

While Mason remains at the Jayhawks' helm, he acknowledges that he's "never lost sight of the fact that most coaches here have been fired."

At Kansas and Kansas State, that trend likely will stop with the current regimes.



is how it's going to get done." "

Complicating the problem for both the Lobos and the Aggies is their competition at home. When football began to go south in New Mexico, basketball was on the rise.

By the mid-'60s, New Mexico had built the Pit, a palatial, 18,000-seat theater for hoops that provided the impetus for a monomaniacal devotion to the sport. New Mexico State constructed the 13,000-seat Pan American Center, a deafening and entertaining place that houses a basketball program that reached the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament last spring.

On a sun-dappled fall afternoon in Las Cruces or a cool evening in Albuquerque, it's not uncommon to see only 10,000 fans in the stands for a football game and a near-sellout for an exhibition basketball game.

"I wish football got the attention basketball does," Aggies defensive lineman Sam Austrino said. "But you really can't say football has had the results, either."

Positive thinkers, like Franchione, believe the basketball programs are perfect examples of how New Mexico football can thrive. He reasons that if other sparsely populated states, like Nebraska and Wyoming, can succeed, the Lobos can, too.

"I've done this before," emphasized Franchione, who took Pittsburg (Kan.) State to the upper reaches of Division II. "I really think this one can be done.

"The Number 1 thing, other than recruiting, is going to be changing attitudes. That's difficult, of course, considering what's gone on here. But you have to take the positives and build on those."

Hess has said many of the same things. When he arrived after long, successful stints in Texas at Angelo State and Stephen F. Austin State, it became the Day of the Candor in Las Cruces.

Hess acknowledged that his program was in awful shape from Day One, minimized the Aggies' shallow talent base and decried two decades of losing with a country-boy smile.

Slowly, however, the Aggles appear on the upswing. They were considerably better in '91, winning two Big West games for the first time since they joined the league in 1983. The new weight room, one of the largest in the nation, has given Hess reason for hope.

"I've enjoyed this thing in the sense that it's been fun trying to build it," Hess said. "Just trying to put the pieces together has been interesting."

Interesting enough to make Hess a popular man in Las Cruces. Almost 220 miles north, Franchione is making friends, influencing people and trying to build a base of support in Albuquerque. Still, there is much to be done—and history can take the best intentions and bury them in the desert.

Hess tells a story that sounds apocryphal—but is so very true.

"We're playing Tulsa and one of my players is running for a touchdown down the sideline," he said. "And for no reason, he falls out of bounds. I've never seen anything like this before. I come up to the kid and tell him, 'Larry, I've been coaching a long time, and I've never seen anybody do that.

"The kid turns to me and says, 'Coach, you haven't been an Aggie long enough."



It's home: A
30,000-seat stadium
more than meets the
Lobos' current needs
(it never has been
sold out), but locker
and weight-room
facilities fall short of
being adequate.

ACC coaches hope the pundits are wrong again

By DOUG DOUGHTY Roanoke Times & World-News

he prevailing wisdom in the Atlantic Coast Conference is that Florida State's entry this fall probably has created a two-team race, with no teams other than Clemson given much of a chance to challenge the Seminoles for conference supremacy.

Of course, many of these same prognosticators gave Florida State's basketball team little chance of surviving its first season in the hoops-crazy league last winter. All the basketball Seminoles did was beat six ACC foes on their opponents' home court and finish second in the league behind eventual national champion Duke.

"You had better not underestimate the ACC," Florida State football Coach Bobby Bowden said. "Don't forget they had a national champion in 1990 (Georgia Tech), and our experience with Clemson through the years has been all-out war."

The league is stronger and more balanced than many people think. Four teams have won or shared the ACC championship in the last three years, and two other teams have gone to bowl games in the same period.

Bowden's new colleagues have nothing but praise for the Seminoles, whose first season will include having to play the league's four other 1991 bowl teams-Clemson, North Carolina State. Georgia Tech and Virginia-away from

"I'm not sure that's going to bother them," Clemson Coach Ken Hatfield said. "They got their mark playing and winning on the road, beating Nebraska at Nebraska (and) Michigan at Michi-

Although Clemson's 1991 ACC title was its first in three seasons, the Tigers are never far from the top of the league standings. They won 10 games in four straight years (1987-90) before a loss to California in the Florida Citrus Bowl dropped their 1991 record to 9-2-1.

Florida State has been one of the top four or five programs in the country for the last five years and come within a missed two-point conversion of a national championship," North Carolina Coach Mack Brown said. "Clemson has had the same kind of program over the last 10 years."

Indeed, only Miami (56-4) and Florida State (53-8) have better records than Clemson (49-10-1) among NCAA Division I-A schools over the last five years.

"Some of the things I have read in the media indicate that Florida State is expected to dominate," North Carolina State Coach Dick Sheridan said. "I just hope the media is as wrong about the football race as it was about basketball."



- 4. Virginia
- 5. NORTH CAROLINA **6. NORTH CAROLINA STATE**
- MARYLAND
- 8. WAKE FOREST
- 9. DUKE

FLORIDA STATE

Cozek: Bobby Bowden (143-44-3, 16 years; 216-76-3 overall, 26 years).

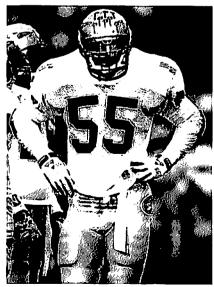
1991 record: 11-2 as an Independent (beat Texas

A&M in Cotton Bowl).

Key losses: Edgar Bennett, FB; Terrell Buckley, CB; Kirk Carruthers, LB; James Chaney, NG; Howard Dinkins, LB; Reggle Dixon, OG; Amp Lee, TB; Kevin Mancini, OT; Errol McCorvey, CB; Mike Morris, OG; Henry Ostaszewski, DE; Scott Player, P; Casey Weldon, QB.

Weddin, Job.
Starters returalag: Offense (5): Robbie Baker, C, 6-4/260, Sr.; Lonnie Johnson, TE, 6-3/224, Jr.; Kez McCorvey, SE, 6-1/182, Soph.; Patrick McNeil, G, 6-3/280, Soph.; Robert Stevenson, T, 6-3/272, Sr. Defense (5): John Davis, S, 6-3/205, Sr.; Leon Fowler, S, 6-3/200, Sr.; Marvin Jones, LB, 6-2/ 220, Jr.; Sterling Palmer, LB, 6-7/252, Jr.; Carl Simpson, T, 6-2/275, Sr. Kiskers (1): Dan Mowrey, K, 5-10/182, Soph.

Other key returness: Clifton Abraham, CB, Soph.; Kevin Adams, LB, Soph.; Ken Alexander, LB, Jr.; Derrick Brooks, LB, Soph.; Lavon Brown, S, Sr.; Chris Cowart, LB, Soph.; Kenny Felder, QB, Jr.;



Searching for hardware: Florida State's Marvin Jones has his sights set on the Lombardi Trophy.

John Flath, OT, Sr.; William Floyd, FB, Soph.; Dan John Flath, Ut., Sr.; William Floyd, FB, Soph.; Dan Footman, DE, Sr.; Reggie Freeman, LB, Sr.; Matt Frier, WR, Jr.; Corey Fuller, CB, Jr.; Tommy Henry, CB, Sr.; Sean Jackson, TB, Jr.; Eric McGill, OG, Sr.; Toddrick McIntosh, NG, Jr.; Tiger McMillon, TB, Soph.; Toy Sanders, DL, Sr.; Corey Sawyer, CB, Soph.; Marquette Smith, TB, Soph.; Gerry Thomas, K, Jr.; Charlie Ward, QB, Jr.

R, Jr.; Charle ward, UB, Jr.

Tep newcemens: Derrick Alexander, DE, Fr. (RS);
Enzo Armella, NG, Fr. (RS); Devin Bush, S, Fr.
(RS); Forrest Conoly, OL, Fr. (RS/knee); Zach
Crockett, FB, Jr. (JC); Alonzo Horner, LB, Jr. (JC);
Juan Laureano, OL, Fr. (RS); Matt Platto, TE, Fr.
(RS); Kelly Rush, DT, Jr. (JC); Clay Shiver, C, Fr.
(RS); Lewis Tyre, OL, Fr. (RS); Tamarick Vanover, WR, Fr.

Schedule: Duke, Sept. 5; at Clemson, Sept. 12; at North Carolina State, Sept. 19; Wake Forest, Sept. 26; at Miami (Fla.), Oct. 3; North Carolina, Oct. 10; at Georgia Tech. Oct. 17; at Virginia, Oct. 31; Maryland, Nov. 7; Tulane, Nov. 14; Florida, Nov.

Kickname: Seminoles Site: Tailahassee, Fla.

Outlook: The Seminoles are the favorites, but it's far from certain that they'll dominate. They have the toughest schedule in the league and must replace big-play performers Casey Weldon, Amp Lee and Terrell Buckley.

Offensive strengths: Lee rushed for 977 yards last season before leaving a year early for the National Football League, but Sean Jackson actually had a higher per-carry average (6.2 to 5.3 yards). There's depth and talent behind Jackson in Tiger McMillon and Marquette

Offensive weaknesses: The line may be somewhat shaky as a few redshirt freshmen are eased into the lineup. There will be first-year starters at quarterback and tailback, too, but talent abounds.

Defensive strengths: Marvin Jones was a finalist for the Lombardi Trophy, which goes to the nation's top linebacker, as a sophomore last year. This year's top sophomore, former prep Player of the Year Derrick Brooks, will be a factor at outside linebacker.

Defensive weaknesses: Florida State will have difficulty replacing Buckley, who received the Thorpe Award as the nation's top defensive back. But that's what they said when Deion Sanders

Special teams: Dan Mowrey missed eight extra points early last year before giving way to Gerry Thomas, who was 17 of 17 in that department. Both return after hitting a combined 15 of 19 on field-goal attempts. Scott Player's 40.4yard punting average will be missed.

Key to success: With their offense in transition (seven starters must be replaced), the Seminoles need their defense to rise to the fore, especially early in the season. Their 10-2 victory over Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl may have been a preview of things to come. Sure sign of trouble: If neither quarter-

back candidate—Charlie Ward or Kenny Felder-becomes the clear-cut

Coach Bobby Bowden says: "Oh, we'll be just as talented, maybe even more so. How these boys mature and how quickly they gain that experience will determine just how good we will be."

CLEMSON

Coach: Ken Hatfield (19-4-1, 2 years; 100-

53-3 overall, 13 years).
1991 record: 9-2-1 (lost to California in Fiorida Citrus Bowl). ACC: 6-0-1/1st.
Key lesses: Rob Bodine, NG; Bruce Bratten, OT; Mike Brown, C; DeChane Cameron, QB; Jeb Flesch, OG; Kelvin Hankins, OT; Leven Kirkland, LB; Chuck Lynch, P; Ed McDaniel, LB; Chester McGlockton,

DT; Tyron Mouzon, S.

Starters retamlag: Offesse (7): Rodney Blunt, TB, 5-10/200, Jr.; Ty Gibson, TE, 6-2/251, Jr.; Rudy Harris, FB, 6-2/245, Sr.; Larry Ryans, WR, 6-0/184, Sr.; Stacy Seegars, G, 6-4/320, Jr.; Terry Smith, WR, 6-1/200, Jr.; Ronald Williams, TB, 6-1/202, Grand Williams, TB, 6-1/202, 1/203, Jr. (status uncertain/knee). Defense [7]: Brentson Buckner, NG, 6-2/310, Jr.; Eric Geter, Steinson Buckers, No., 6-2/3 to, 31.; Eric detect. CB, 6-0/194, Sr.; Kenzil Jackson, LB, 5-11/224, Sr.; Robert O'Neal, S, 6-2/185, Sr.; Ashley Shep-pard, LB, 6-3/254, Sr.; Wayne Simmons, LB, 6-2/ 236, Sr.; Darneil Stephens, S, 6-0/224, Soph. Kick-trs [1]: Nelson Welch, K, 5-8/182, Soph.

Other key returaces: Arthur Bussie, DT, Jr.; Les Hall, OT, Sr.; Tim Jones, LB, Soph.; Richard Moncrief,

QB. Jr.

QB, Jr.
Tep newcomers: Derek Burnette, LB, Fr.; Marvin Cross, LB, Fr. (RS); Marrio Grier, RB, Fr. (RS); Henry Guess, WR, Fr. (RS); Andre Hewltt, OT, Jr. (JC); Andy McCrorey, DB, Fr. (RS); Dexter McLeon, QB, Fr.; Bryce Nelson, C, Jr. (JC); Bernard Randolph, LB, Fr.; Patrick Sapp, QB, Fr. Schadelle: Ball State, Sept. 5; Florida State, Sept. 12; at Georgia Tech, Sept. 26; UT-Chattanooga, Oct. 3; at Virginia, Oct. 10; Duke, Oct. 17; at North Carolina State, Oct. 24; at Wake Forest, Oct. 31; North Carolina. Nov. 7; at Maryland, Nov. 14; South

Carolina, Nov. 7; at Maryland, Nov. 14; South Carolina, Nov. 21.

Nickeama: Tigers Site: Clemson, S.C.

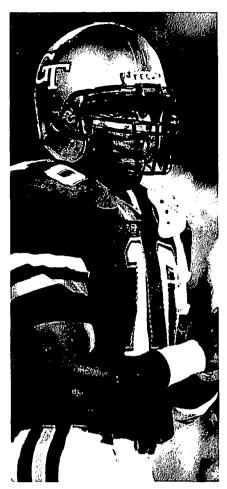
Outlook: The Tigers are still smarting from the 37-17 whipping California handed them in the Citrus Bowl. Still. they haven't lost more than two games in a regular season since 1985, and that shouldn't change even with Florida State now in the league.

Offensive strengths: Terry Smlth joins with track man Larry Ryans to give the Tigers a deep, athletic corps of receivers. Clemson's top nine receivers from 1991 are back.

Offensive weaknesses: Tailback Ronald Williams averaged 7.1 yards per carry before suffering a knee injury in warmups before Clemson's sixth game. The injury required reconstructive surgery, and his status for 1992 is questionable. Junior quarterback Richard Moncrief has yet to make a start. Three allconference linemen must be replaced.

Defensive strengths: Outside linebackers Wayne Simmons and Ashley Sheppard are as talented as former Tigers star Levon Kirkland, a two-time All-ACC pick. Robert O'Neal is a twotime all-conference free safety, while sophomore strong safety Darnell Stephens is a future star.

Defensive weaknesses: The Tigers will miss middle guard Rob Bodine, whose 27 tackles for losses were the most in Division I-A last season. Chester Mc-Glockton, a 337-pound tackle, finally was beginning to realize his potential when he passed up his final year of eligibility to turn pro.



Looking to sting, again: Enough players like Shawn Jones return to make the Yellow Jackets a contender.

Special teams: Nelson Welch booted a league-leading 17 field goals as a freshman in '91 and should handle both the punting and place-kicking this year. Stephens led the conference with a 14.1yard punt-return average.

Key to success: A quick, easy transition at quarterback from DeChane Cameron to someone else.

Sure sign of trouble: If Williams can't play and the young running backs aren't ready.

Coach Ken Hatfield says: "Our goal is to play the best we can as a team in 1992. We didn't do it last year. We helped the opponent with some of the things we said (in the press about other teams). You don't realize what pressure that puts on your weakest player."

GEORGIA TECH

Coach: Bill Lewis (first year; 34-32-2 overall,

6 years). 1991 record: 8-5 (beat Stanford in Aloha Bowl). ACC: 5-2/T2nd.

Key losses: Billy Chubbs, C; Willie Clay, CB; Marco Coleman, LB; Tom Covington, TE; Russell Free-man, OT; Scott Gold, OG; Greg Lester, FL; John Lewis, OG; Mike Mooney, OT; Ken Swilling, S; Jer-

relle Williams, LB. Starters returning: Offense (3): Shawn Jones, QB, 6-1/200, Sr.; Jimy Lincoln, RB, 5-9/183, Soph.; Jason McGill, SE, 6-1/188, Jr. Defense (7): Kevin Battle, NG, 6-5/299, Sr.; Curley Day, CB, 5-10/

174, Sr.; Erick Fry, LB, 6-3/221, Sr.; Richard Kimsey, T, 6-3/271, Jr.; Kevin Peoples, S, 6-1/203, Sr.; Coleman Rudolph, T, 6-4/267, Sr.; Marion Williams, S, 6-2/209, Jr. Kickers (2): Jason Bender, P, 6-3/208, Soph.; Scott Sisson, K, 6-1/197, Sr. Other key returnees: William Bell, RB, Jr. (RS/disci-USER BY THERESES: WHITEM BEIL, RB, Jr. (RS/disciplinary); Brian Bravy, OG, Soph.; Chris Brooks, OT, Jr.; Marcus Coleman, CB, Jr.; Jamal Cox, LB, Soph.; Lethon Flowers, CB, Soph.; Brent Goolsby, SE, Sr.; David Hendrix, S, Soph.; Tom Johnson, LB, Jr.; Woodle Milam, OT, Sr.; Anthony Rice, TE, Jr.; Bobby Rodriguez, FL, Sr.; Michael Smith, FB, Soph. (RS): Rodnay Willegens, 1.9 (Facility Control of the September 19) (RS); Rodney Wilkerson, LB (moved from FB), Šoph.

TSP STWEESERS: Gary Brown, OT, Jr. (JC); Michael Cheever, C, Fr. (RS); Freddie Coger, LB, Soph. (JC); Donnie Davis, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Dukes, (3C); Definite Davis, db, Fr. (RS); Jason Dukes, OT, Fr. (RS); Curtis Duncan, DT, Fr. (RS); Dorsey Levens, RB, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame); James Singleton, DT, Fr.; Carlos Smith, S, Fr. (RS); Cedric Zachary, FL, Fr. (RS). Seksfels: Western Carolina, Sept. 12; at Virginia, Sept. 19; Clemson, Sept. 26; North Carolina State, Oct. 3; at Maryland, Oct. 10; Florida State, Oct. 17;

at North Carolina, Oct. 24; Duke, Oct. 31; at Baylor, Nov. 7; Wake Forest, Nov. 14; at Georgia, Nov. 28. Nickeams: Yellow Jackets.

Site: Atlanta.

Outlook: Will the real Georgia Tech please stand up? In 1990, the Yellow Jackets went unbeaten and captured a share of the national championship. Last year, they sank to 8-5, with three of those victories by three points or less. Enough players remain from 1990 to make this year's team a contender.

Offensive strengths: Shawn Jones is an all-league quarterback, and the running back position is deep with ACC Rookie of the Year Jimy Lincoln, junior William Bell, who was a star two years ago, and Notre Dame transfer Dorsey Levens.

Offensive weaknesses: Every starter from last year's line has departed, and two redshirt freshmen were listed as No. 1 on the spring depth chart.

Defensive strengths: Although NFL draftees Marco Coleman and Ken Swilling got the headlines, tackle Coleman Rudolph led the Jackets with 13 sacks. Noseguard Kevin Battle has size and two years' starting experience.

Defensive weaknesses: Replacing inside linebacker Jerrelle Williams, who made at least 100 tackles in each of the last three years, won't be easy. Rodney Wilkerson, a former fullback who has been moved to defense, will try.

Special teams: Senior Scott Sisson has won five games for Tech the last three seasons with last-second field goals. Jason Bender was a pleasant surprise as a freshman punter, but return man Willie Clay will be missed.

Key to success: A seamless transition in coaches from Bobby Ross to Bill Lewis. Sure sign of trouble: If an inexperienced line is slow to develop and Jones' hurried passes are picked off by opponents. Coach Bill Lewis says: "I think (Jones) would admit there was a little falloff in his performance from his sophomore to his junior year, so I want to bring Shawn back up to the top. I want him to be the absolute best he can be because, if he is. I think we have one of the better quarterbacks in the country.'

Continued



ALL-ATLANTIC COAST TEAM eseason

IPLIAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Shawn Jones, QB, Georgia Tech

DEFENSE



Chris Slade DE, Virginia

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Scott Milanovich, QB, Maryland Kelly Rush, DT, Florida State

FIRST TEAM **OFFENSE**

Name, School HL/WL Class COREY HOLLIDAY, North Carolina 6-2/204 TERRY SMITH, Clemson 6-1/200 JOHN HENRY MILLS, Wake Forest 6-1/220 Sr. LES HALL, Clemson 6-7/313 Sr. ROBERT STEVENSON, Florida St. 6-3/272 Sr. RANDALL PARSONS, N. Carolina 6-3/270 MARK DIXON, Virginia 6-4/277 Jr. STACY SEEGARS, Clemson 6-4/320 Jr. SHAWN JONES, Georgia Tech 6-1/200 Sr. TERRY KIRBY, Virginia 6-3/217 Sr. NATRONE MEANS, North Carolina 5-10/230 Jr.

DEFENSE

Pas.	Kame, School	BL/Wt.	Class
DL	COLEMAN RUDOLPH, Ga. Tech	6-4/267	Sr.
DL	CARL SIMPSON, Florida State	6-2/275	Sr.
DL		6-5/235	Sr.
LB	MARVIN JONES, Florida State	6-2/220	Jr.
LB	TYLER LAWRENCE, N.C. State	6-3/230	Jr.
LB	WAYNE SIMMONS, Clemson	6-2/236	Sr.
LB	TOMMY THIGPEN, North Carolina	6-2/230	Sr.
OB	ROBERT O'NEAL, Clemson	6-2/185	Sr.
DB	MIKE REID, North Carolina State	6-2/208	Jr.
DB	SEBASTIAN SAVAGE, N.C. State	5-11/187	Sr.
DB	TOMMY SMITH, North Carolina	5-11/188	Sr.
		4.5	

SPECIAUSTS

PK	Name, School NELSON WELCH, Clemson JASON BENDER, Georgia Tech	HL/WL 5-8/182 6-3/208	Ciass Soph Soph
P	JASUN BENDEN, Georgia Tech	0-3/200	Sohn

SECONDIEAM

OFFENSE Name, School HL/WL Class LARRY HOLMES, Virginia 5-9/181 J۲. FRANK WYCHECK, Maryland LONNIE JOHNSON, Florida State 6-3/234 ۸r. 6-3/224 Jr. **BRANDON MOORE, Duke** 6-7/275 Sr. JIM REID, Virginia 6-7/280 J۲. ROBBIE BAKER, Florida State SCOTT FALISE, North Carolina 6-4/260 Sr. 6-3/255 PATRICK McNEIL, Florida State 6-3/280 Soph. **TERRY JORDAN, N.C. State** 6-1/194 Sr. WILLIAM BELL, Georgia Tech 5-11/213 Jr. SEAN JACKSON, Florida State 6-2/220

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	KEVIN BATTLE, Georgia Tech	6-5/299	Sr.
DL	RICKY LOGO, North Carolina State	6-1/278	Şr.
DL	AUSTIN ROBBINS, North Carolina	6-6/277	J۲.
LB	MIKE JARMOLOWICH, Maryland	6-2/238	Sr.
LB	MAURICE MILLER, Wake Forest	6-3/217	Sr.
LB	ASHLEY SHEPPARD, Clemson	6-3/254	Sr.
LB	DARRELL SPELLS, Duke	6-1/210	Sr.
D8	GEORGE COGHILL, Wake Forest	6-1/201	Sr.
DB	CURLEY DAY, Georgia Tech	5-10/174	Sr.
DB	RONDELL JONES, North Carolina	6-2/210	Sr.
DB	KEITH LYLE, Virginia	6-2/198	Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	RL/WL	Class
PK	SCOTT SISSON, Georgia Tech	6-1/197	Sr.
P	TIM KILPATRICK, N.C. State	5-11/172	Sr.

VIRGINIA

Coach: George Welsh (66-47-3, 10 years; 121-93-4 overall, 19 years). 1991 record: 8-3-1 (lost to Oklahoma in Gator Bowl). ACC: 4-2-1/4th.

Bowl). ACC: 4-2-1/4th.

Key lesses: Matt Blundin, OB; Ed Garno, P; Tyrone Lewis, DB; Matt Quigley, DT; Don Reynolds, DT; Ray Roberts, OT; Eugene Rodgers, LB.

Starters returaling: Offesse [8]: Andrew Dausch, WR, 6-0/181, Soph.; Tyrone Davis, WR, 6-5/206, Soph.; Terry Kirby, TB, 6-3/217, Sr.; Aaron Mundy, TE, 6-6/237, Jr.; Jim Reid, G/T, 6-7/280, Jr.; Tim Samec, C, 6-3/281, Sr.; Gary Steele, FB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Jeff Tomlin, G, 6-4/270, Sr.; David Ware, T, 6-6/260, Sr. Befause [7]: Mike Frederick, E, 6-5/256, Soph.; Greg Jeffries, DB, 5-9/184, Sr.; P.J. Killian, LB, 6-3/232, Jr.; Keith Lyle, DB, 6-2/198, Jr.; Greg McClellan, DB, 5-10/195, Jr.; Chris Slade, E, 6-5/235, Sr.; Gene Tollver, LB, 6-3/212, Jr. Kletters [1]: Mike Husted, K, 6-0/192, Sr. Jr. Kickers (1): Mike Husted, K, 6-0/192, Sr.

Jr. Klekers [1]: Mike Husted, K. 6-0/192, Sr. Ciher key reterees: Daymon Anderson, DB, Jr.; Tom Burns, LB, Jr.; Mark Dixon, OG, Jr.; Bobby Goodman, OB, Sr.; Curtis Hicks, LB, Soph.; Larry Holmes, WR, Jr.; Charles Kelningham, OG, Sr.; Mark Krichbaum, DT, Soph.; Ryan Kuehl, DT/DE, Soph.; Kenneth Miles, DT, Sr.; Randy Neal, LB, Soph.; Carl Smith, DB, Soph.; Terrence Temlin, WR, Sr.; Jerrod Washington, RB/DB, Jr.; Marcus Washington, DT, Jr.; Charles Way, F.B, Soph. Top swcomers: Will Brice, K/P, Fr.; Kevin Brocks, RB, Fr. (RS); Mike Groh, OB, Fr. (RS); B.J. Hawkins, OB, Soph. (transfer/Notre Dame); Skeet Jones, LB, Fr. (RS); Paul London, DB/WR, Fr. (RS); Kendall Meade, WR, Fr. (RS); Eddie Robertson, LB, Fr. (RS); Symmton Willis, OB, Fr. (RS). Sebulals: Maryland, Sept. 5; at Navy, Sept. 12; Georgia Tech, Sept. 19; at Duke, Sept. 26; at Wake Forest, Oct. 3; Clemson, Oct. 10; at North Carolina, Oct. 17; William & Mary, Oct. 24; Florida State, Oct. 31; North Carolina State, Nov. 7; at Virginia Tech, 31; North Carolina State, Nov. 7; at Virginia Tech, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Cavallers. Site: Charlottesville, Va.

Outlook: The Cavaliers did not lose at home last season, a feat they're unlikely to repeat in 1992 with Florida State, Clemson, Georgia Tech and North Carolina State all coming to Charlottesville. Still, Virginia has won at least seven games the last five years, a trend that's likely to continue.

Offensive strengths: Terry Kirby last season became the first player in 23 years to lead Virginia in both rushing and receiving in the same season. Wide receivers Larry Holmes and Tyrone Davis and tight end Aaron Mundy combined for 18 touchdown receptions.

Offensive weaknesses: Bobby Goodman is the only quarterback on the roster who has playing experience. He played well in two starts last season when Matt Blundin was injured. Starting guards Mark Dixon and Jeff Tomlin both had off-season back surgery.

Defensive strengths: All-America end Chris Slade probably is the best defensive lineman the Cavs have ever had. His bookend counterpart, sophomore Mike Frederick, has all-conference potential. Junior free safety Keith Lyle may follow his dad, Gary, into the NFL.

Defensive weaknesses: As Oklahoma so painfully proved in the Gator Bowl, the linebackers are vulnerable to the pass. Tackles Kenneth Miles and Marcus Washington have never been able to stay healthy.

Special teams: The Cavaliers hope recruit Will Brice, a true freshman, can replace Ed Garno, their first All-ACC punter since the mid-1970s. Placekicker Michael Husted must prove he can make the clutch field goal.

Key to success: Goodman doesn't have to win games for Virginia, but he can't lose them.

Sure sign of trouble: A slow start against weak early-season opponents.

Coach George Welsh says: "We could have a better defense and not do some of the things we did last year-like hold teams to 10 points a game and give up only one touchdown pass."

NORTH CAROLINA

Coach: Mack Brown (15-28-1, 4 years; 32-56-1 overall, 8 years). 1991 record: 7-4. ACC: 3-4/5th.

Key losses: Roy Barker, DT; Eric Blount, KR; Brian Bollinger, OG; Andy Dinkin, OG; Eric Gash, LB; Clint Gwaltney, K; Dwight Hollier, LB; Deems May, TE; Scott McAlister, P; Andrew Oberg, OT; Rickie Shaw, OT.

Shaw, OT. Starters returning: Offense (6): Mike Faulkerson, FB, 6-0/240, Sr.; Corey Holliday, SE, 6-2/204, Jr.; Joey Jauch, FL, 6-1/193, Sr.; Natrone Means, TB, 5-10/230, Jr.; Randall Parsons, C, 6-3/270, Sr.; Jason Stanicek, QB, 6-2/175, Soph. Defense (8): J.R. Boldin, NG, 6-2/276, Sr.; Sean Crocker, CB, 5-10/185, Jr.; Rondell Jones, S, 6-2/210, Sr.; Cockie Massey, S, 6-0/217, Sr.; Jonathan Perry, LB, 6-3/241, Sr.; Austin Rebbins, DT, 6-6/277, Jr.; Thomas Smith CR, 5-11/188, Sr.; Tommy Thiopen, LB, 6-3/270, Jr.; Cockie Massey, S, 6-0/217, Jr.; Tomas Smith CR, 5-11/188, Sr.; Tommy Thiopen, LB, 6-3/270, Jr.; Tomas Smith CR, 5-11/188, Sr.; Tommy Thiopen, LB, 6-3/270, Jr.; Tommy Thiopen, Jr.; Tommy Thiopen, Jr.; Tommy Thiopen, Jr.; Tommy Thiopen, Jr.; Smith, CB, 5-11/188, Sr.; Tommy Thigpen, LB, 6-2/230, Sr. Kiskers: None.

2/230, Sr. Kirkers: None.
Other key returness: Ethan Albright, OT, Jr. (RS);
Bucky Brooks, WR, Jr.; Chuckle Burnette, QB, Sr.;
Greg Delong, TE, Soph.; Scott Falise, CG, Jr.; Randall Felton, WR, Sr.; Bernardo Harris, LB, Jr.; William Henderson, FB, Soph.; Jimmy Hitchcock, DB, Soph.; Shawn Hocker, GG, Jr.; Ray Jacobs, LB, Jr.;
Randy Jordan, TB, Sr.; Malcolm Marshall, FB, Soph. (RS); Kerry Mock, LB, Soph.; Curtis Parker, OT, Jr.; Julius Reese, WR, Jr. (RS/knee); Oscar Sturgis TF, Soph. Sturgis, TE, Soph.

Top newcomers: Mike Thomas, QB, Fr. (RS/thumb).

Schridig: At Wake Forest, Sept. 5: Furman, Sept. 12: Army; Sept. 19; North Carolina State, Sept. 26; Navy, Oct. 31; at Florida State; Oct. (10; Virginia Oct. 17; Georgia Tech; Oct. 24; at Maryland; Oct. 31; at Clamson, Nov. 7; at Duke; Nov. 21. Victoria: Tar Heals. Site: Chapel Hill, N.C.

Outlook: Nothing short of a bowl bid will satisfy the Tar Heels, who haven't played in a bowl game since 1986. They are riding the crest of back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1982-83.

Offensive strengths: Natrone Means was the ACC's only 1,000-yard rusher last year, and fellow tailback Randy Jordan would start for most teams. Corey Holliday is a quality receiver.

Offensive weaknesses: Center Randall Parsons is good, but he is the only returning starter up front. Sophomores Greg Delong and Oscar Sturgis were prominent recruits who are expected to fill the hole at tight end.

Defensive strengths: Inside linebacker Tommy Thigpen has registered more than 100 tackles in each of his first three seasons in Chapel Hill. Defensive backs Rondell Jones and Thomas Smith possess all-conference potential.

Defensive weaknesses: The Tar Heels must do a better job of controlling the line of scrimmage. Tackle Austin Robbins showed flashes of brilliance but registered only three sacks.

Special teams: This could be a real problem area following the departure of punter Scott McAlister, place-kicker Clint Gwaltney and record-setting return man Eric Blount.

Keys to success: Developing a potent passing attack and scoring more points against good teams.

Sure sign of trouble: If no one steps forward as the No. 1 quarterback.

Coach Mack Brown says: "We're ready to take the next step, but in this league you better be pretty good. It will be more difficult to win the championship than it was in going from 1-10 to 7-4."

N.C. STATE

Cosch: Dick Sheridan (43-26-2,6 years; 112-49-4 overall; 14 years).
1891. record: 9-3 (lost to East Carolina in Paach Bowl), ACC.5-2/12nd.
Ky Inster: Scott Adell, OT; Brent Bagwell, OG; Charles Davenport, SE; Mark Fowdis, K. Todd Harrison, TE; Danton Hartman, K. Clyde Hawley (JG; Billy, Ray Haynes, LB; Clayton Henry, LB; Mark Thomas, DT;

Starturs returnleg: Offices (7): Anthony Barbour, TB, 5-9/175, Sr. Mike Gee, B, 8-4/275, Sr. (Sta-tus uncertain/shoulder), Ray Griffie, FL, 5-10/ 185, Jr. Terry Jordan, QB, 6-1/194, Sr., Greg, Manler, FB, 6-2/241, Seph. Todd Ward, C, 6-2/254, Jr. Scott: Woods, T, 6-4/271, Jr. Diffuse, [8]: John Akins, T, 6-4/288, Jr. Tyler Lawrence, LB, 6-3/230, Jr., Ricky Logo, Mc, 6-7/276, Sr., David Merritt, LB, 6-2/235, Sr., Mike Reid, S, 6-2/208, Jr. Scheden, Sc., 2006, Sc Jr., Sebastian Sayage, CB, 5-11/187, Sr., Ricky Turner, S.6-0/188, Sr., Dawayne Washington, CB, 6-0/184, Jr. Kieters (1): Tim Kilpatrick, P, 5-11/

Other key returness: Neal Aver, TE, Sr.: Keith Battle, LB, Jr.; Chuck Cole, OT, Jr.; Eric Counts, DT, Jr.; Damlen Coyington, LB, Soph.; Walt Gerard, CB, Jr.; Marc Hubble, OG, Sr.; Mike, Johnson, S.; Soph.; Shawn Johnson, OG, Ur.; Marc Latta, CB; Sr.; Reg-



Grand back: North Carolina's Natrone Means was the ACC's only 1,000-yard rusher last year.

gle Lawrence, SE, Sr.; James Newsome, C, Jr.; Andreas O'Neal, DT, Sr.; Matt Osborne; K, Sr.; Etc. Taylor, OT, Jr.

PLEASE TO THE LANGE OF THE STATE OF THE STAT

Top Beweeners: Linwood Bullock, S. Fr.; Curt Far-roll, LB. Fr.; Linster Frazier, DT. Fr.; Mike Guffle, SE. Fr.; George Hégamin, OT/Fr.; Chris Hennie-Roed, OG, Fr.; Allen Johnson, CB. Fr.; Steve Kelm, CG. Fr.; Lamont McGauley, MG, Fr.; Chad Ray, OT,

Scholule: lowa (Kickoff Classic at East Rutherford. N.J.), Aug. 29: Appalachian State, Sept. 5, at Maryland, Sept. 12: Florida State, Sept. 19: at North Carolina, Sept. 26; at Georgia Tech, Oct. 3: Texas Tech, Oct. 10; at Virginia Tech, Oct. 17: mson, Oct. 24; at Virginia, Nov. 7; Duke, Nov. 14; Wake Forest, Nov. 21.

Site: Raleigh, N.C.

Outlook: After going .500 in its final six games following a 6-0 start, the Wolfpack needs to get off to a fast start to restore some lost prestige and gain confidence.

Offensive strengths: Tailback Anthony Barbour, plagued by injuries throughout his career, led the ACC by averaging 6.2 yards per carry last year. The Wolfpack won games in '91 with three different starting quarterbacks, all of whom are back.

Offensive weaknesses: The line could be a major problem. Three 1991 starters have completed their eligibility and a fourth, Mike Gee, missed spring ball with a shoulder injury that makes him questionable for the fall. A careerending injury to projected starter Brent Bagwell makes the rebuilding effort even harder.

Defensive strengths: Cornerback Sebastian Savage is the ACC's leader in interceptions (five) among returnees, and strong safety Mike Reid deflected 14 passes a year ago. Ricky Logo is the league's top noseguard.

Defensive weaknesses: An inability to put pressure on opposing quarterbacks hurt the Wolfpack, most notably in its Peach Bowl loss to East Carolina. No N.C. State player had more than four sacks in 1991.

Special teams: Tim Kilpatrick is a reliable punter, but Damon Hartman and Mark Fowble, who shared field-goal and kickoff duties, must be replaced. State led the ACC in kickoff coverage last year.

Key to success: The Wolfpack must continue to do the little things well. It was the least-penalized team in the ACC and led the conference in turnover ratio by a wide margin.

Sure sign of trouble: If the offensive line can't open holes and the running game grinds to a stop.

Coach Dick Sheridan says: "We're continually walking a fine line. We don't get many of the so-called blue-chippers. but we've gotten ourselves in position (for the ACC championship) some years and not been able to finish."

MARYLAND

Couch: Mark Duffner (first year, 60-5-1 over-

Cesek: Mark Duffner (first year; 60-5-1 over-all, 6 years),
1891 resoft; 2-9. ACC: 2-5/6th.

Key losses: Dan DøArmas, K/P; Greg Hines, DE;
Troy Jackson, RB; Raiph Orta, NG; Jim Sandwisch,
OB; Mitch Suples, C; Gene Thomas, WR; MikerThomas, DB; Larry Webster, DT; Lubo Zizakovic, DT.

Starters returning: Offesse (7): Dave DeBruin, G, 64/275, Sr.; Jade: Dubis, G, 6-1/274, Soph.; Dave
Dunne, G, 6-4/280, Sr.; Dave Hack, T, 6-5/268,
Soph.; Richie: Harris, WR, 5-10/150, Sr.; Brett
Stevenson, TE, 6-5/240, Sr.; Frank Wycheck, HB,
6-3/234, Jr.; Defesse (8): Bill linge; S, 5-11/193,
Sr.; Mike Jarmelowich, LB, 6-2/238, Sr.; Dave
Jawrence, CB, 5-9/192, Sr.; Dave Marrone, LB, 63/242, Sr.; Ren Reagan, S, 5-11/194, Sr.; Mark
Sturdivant, E, 6-3/244, Jr.; Kiskers; (1): Fred Ensign, K, 6-2/182, Sr.
Olber, Key retisrasse: Marcus Badgett, WR, Sr.;
Shawn Bartley, WR, Jr.; Job Cooper, DT, Sr.; Dar-

Shawn Bartley, WR, Jr.; Dec Cooper, DT, Sr.; Dar-ren Drozdov, NG, Sr.; Jaime Flores, LB, Jr.; Stave Ingram, OT, Soph. (RS/leg); Jason Kremus, WR, Jr.; Mark Mason; RB, Jr.; Jim Panagos, DT, Jr.; Scott-Rosen; CB (will move to S), Sr. (RS/ham-string); Terry Sauerbry, C, Jr.; Ron Staffleno, OG, Sr.; Raphael Wall, RB, Soph.; Larry, Washington, RB, Sonh.

Top newscantra: Dave DeArmas, P/K, Fr. (RS); Ken Green, LB; Fr. (RS); Tom Marchese, OB, Fr. (RS); Scott Milanovich, OB, Fr. (RS); John Teter, C, Fr.

Schlich: At Virginia, Sept. 5: North Carolina State, Sept. 12: at West Virginia; Sept. 19: at Penn State, Sept. 26: Pittsburgh; Oct. 3: Georgia Tech. Oct. 10: Wake Forest, Oct. 17: at Duke, Oct. 24/, North Carolina, Oct. 3); at Florida State, Nov. 7; Clemson,

Ki**skous:** Terrapins Site College Park, Md.

Outlook: New Coach Mark Duffner could lose more games in 1992 than he did in six years at Division I-AA power Holy Cross (five). The Terrapins don't figure to be favored in any of their first six games, and only Florida State plays a comparable non-conference sched-

Offensive strengths: Running back

Continued

Mark Mason was leading the ACC in allpurpose yardage last season when he suffered a broken leg in the fifth game. Last year's youth on the offensive line translates into experience this year.

Offensive weaknesses: Maryland, once known as a quarterback factory, enters this season looking for a No. 1 guy. Is it redshirt freshman Scott Milanovich? Terp quarterbacks threw a league-low seven touchdown passes last season.

Defensive strengths: Inside linebacker Mike Jarmolowich had 29 more tackles than anyone else in the league last year. Scott Rosen, who missed all but one game in 1991 due to injury, has moved from corner to safety.

Defensive weaknesses: Maryland was last in the ACC in sacks last year, and that was with the since-departed front line of Larry Webster, Lubo Zizakovic and Ralph Orta.

Special teams: Redshirt freshman Dave DeArmas, foiled in his bid to gain instant eligibility at Miami when Maryland dropped his major, inherits the kicking duties from his brother, Dan. An abundance of running backs should make it easy to settle on a return man.

Keys to success: Improving an offense that did not score more than 23 points in any game last season. Cutting down on interceptions (19) and sacks allowed (36) would help, too.

Sure sign of trouble: A game of musical chairs at quarterback.

Coach Mark Duffner says: "I grew up in the shadow of College Park. To have an opportunity to restore the effectiveness of Maryland football is a dream come true."

WAKE FOREST

Coath: Bill Dooley (21-32-2, 5 years; 154-122-5 overall, 25 years). 1991 recent: 3-8. ACC: 1-6/17th.

Kry losses: Steven Ainsworth, OB; Tryg Brody, OT; Aubrey Hollifield, NG; Tony Hollis, S; Gregg Lang, WB; Marvin Mitchell, OT; Bob Niedbala, FB; Kim

Sheek, P.
Starters returalize Offesse [8]: Todd Dixon, SE, 511/173, Jr.; Tom Kleinlein, T, 6-6/275, Sr.; John
Leach, TB, 5-9/213, Jr.; David Lowe, T, 6-7/310,
Jr.; John Henry Mills, TE, 6-1/220, Sr.; Tom
Mordica, 6, 6-6/257, Sr.; Mike Siders, C, 6-3/275,
Jr.; Keith West, OB, 6-1/201, Sr.; Revinsas [7]:
George Coghill, CB, 6-6-1/201, Sr.; Kevin Giles, LB,
6-0/197, Soph.; Ron Lambert, CB, 5-10/190, Sr.;
Mike McCrary, E, 6-4/240, Sr.; Maurice Miller, E,
6-3/217, Sr.; Lamont Scales, S, 6-2/195, Sr.;
Scott Shelhamer, LB, 6-1/225, Sr. Kickers [1]:
Mike Green, K, 5-11/212, Jr.
Olber key reterrases: Ored Booe, DT, Jr.; Ben
Coleman, OT, Sr.; Behby, Jones, WB, Sr.; Jim Kemp,
OB, Jr.; Mitch Kennedy, FB, Jr.; Jay Williams, DT,
Jr.

Top newcomers: Sherron Gudger, RB, Fr.: Tim John-

son, LB, Fr.; Rusty LaRue, QB, Fr.
Schedule: North Carolina, Sept. 5; Appalachian.
State, Sept. 12; at Florida State; Sept. 26; Virginia,
Oct. 3; at Vanderbilt, Oct. 10; at Maryland, Oct. 17;
Army, Oct. 24; Clemson, Oct. 31; at Duke, Nov. 7; at Georgia Tech, Nov. 14; at North Carolina State,

Nickneus: Demon Deacons. Site: Winston-Salem, N.C.

Outlook: The Deacons hope some of the momentum they gained at the end of last season by beating Duke and Navy in the final three weeks will carry over. The victory over the Blue Devils



Demon of a DB: George Coghill is one of a trio of three-year starters in Wake Forest's secondary.

snapped a 17-game ACC losing streak. Offensive strengths: The receiving corps is deep, with the return of five players who had at least 15 catches last year. The best are tight end John Henry Mills, who led the ACC with 51 receptions, and wide receiver Todd Dixon, who averaged 19.9 yards per catch.

Offensive weaknesses: Amazingly, Wake Forest has not had a 1,000-yard rusher since 1979. That drought isn't likely to end in 1992. The line includes four returning starters, but little depth. Defensive strengths: The Deacons have a trio of three-year starters in the secondary with George Coghill, Ron Lambert and Lamont Scales. Mike Mc-Crary, who had 10 sacks last year, is a quality pass rusher.

Defensive weaknesses: The front line was unable to control the line of scrimmage in 1991 and doesn't figure to do so in '92 following the departure of Tryg Brody, Aubrey Hollifield and Marvin Mitchell.

Special teams: Mike Green (14 of 19 on field goals last year) may double as the punter as well. Coghill has averaged 13.3 yards per punt return in his career. Key to success: Fewer turnovers. Quarterback Keith West threw a leagueleading 18 interceptions in 1991. Jim Kemp, son of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack and brother of NFL quarterback Jeff, is pushing him. Sure sign of trouble: If the defense starts yielding 400 yards per game again.

Coach Bill Dooley says: "We've got some players who can play for anybody, but have you ever known Wake Forest to have any depth?"

DUKE

Cozeh Barry Wilson (8-13-1, 2 years).
1991 restrir.4-6-1. ACC: 1-8/T7th.
Key losses: Stuart Albright, C; Mark Allen, LB;
Preston: Anderson, DT; Chris Brown, FB; Dave
Brown, OB; Walter Jones, WR; Gregg McConnell,
NG; Quinton McCracken, CB; Pate Petroff, OG;
Erwin Sampson, S; Aaron Shaw, TE; Wyatt Smith,

CB.
Starters returning: Officase [5]: Steve Alderfer, G, 6-4/274, Sr.; Stanley Dorsey, WR, 6-2/196, Sr.; Leroy Gallman, TB, 5-11/195, Sr.; Brandon Moore, T, 6-7/275, Sr.; Matt Williams, T, 6-3/253, Jr. Defense [5]: Derrick Jackson, S, 6-3/190, Sr.; Duane Marks, LB, 6-5/225, Sr.; Warren Scoville, T, 6-5/245, Sr.; Brad Sherrod, LB, 6-3/210, Sr.; Daryell Spells, LB, 6-1/210, Sr. Klekers [2]: Tim Davis, P. 6-6/205; Sr.; Randy Gardner, K, 5-11/190, Sr. Other key returness: Scott Berdan, LB, Sr.; Brad Breedlove, WR, Sr.; Randy Cuthbert, TB, Sr. (RS/shoulder); Jamal Ellis, CB, Jr.; John Farquhar, TE, Jr.; Tijan Redmon, FB, Soph.; Sean Thomas, S, Jr.; Scott Youmans, NG, Sr. Top sewcomers None.

Top newcomers: None. Sebsdeic At Florida State, Sept. 5; at Vanderbilt, Sept. 12; Rice, Sept. 19; Virginia, Sept. 26; East Carolina, Oct. 10; at Clemson, Oct. 17; Maryland, Oct. 24; at Georgia Tech, Oct. 31; Wake Forest, Nov. 7; at North Carolina State, Nov. 14; North Carolina, Nov. 21. Nicknima: Blue Devils.

Site: Durham, N.C.

Outlook: The Blue Devils might be lacking for confidence after losing their last five games in 1991. They need to win home games against Rice, Maryland and Wake Forest to even think about having a successful season.

Offensive strengths: Tailback Randy Cuthbert appears to be as sound physically as he's been since 1989, when he rushed for 1,023 yards and ranked among the ACC's receiving leaders.

Offensive weaknesses: After spending most of spring practice looking for a backup to quarterback Dave Brown, the Blue Devils now are looking for a starter. Brown decided to skip his final year and apply for the NFL supplemental draft.

Defensive strengths: There's size and experience at outside linebacker. Inside linebacker Darrell Spells ranked second in the league last year with 124 tackles.

Defensive weaknesses: The Blue Devils must replace three members of a veteran secondary. The line needs an ablebodied Scott Youmans (broken ankle last season) at noseguard.

Special teams: Brad Breedlove does double duty on kickoff and punt returns and is one of the league's best.

Keys to success: Cuthbert must stay healthy and Brown's replacement must be solid.

Sure sign of trouble: If opposing offenses continue to shred a paper-thin defense. The Blue Devils were sixth in the ACC last year in four defensive categories.

Coach Barry Wilson says: "I don't think I've ever been through a season in my career with as many crippling injuries as last year."

स्वात

Ascending: North Carolina. The Tar Heels have posted a 13-8-1 record over the last two years after going 2-20 in Coach Mack Brown's first two seasons at Chapel Hill.

Descending: North Carolina State.

Best offensive line:

Best offensive backfield:

Best backup quarterback:

Geoff Bender, N.C. State

Bost wide receivers:

Best cirtch receiver:

Best defensive line:

Georgia Tech

Terry Smith, Clemson

Virginia

Florida State

Georgia Tech

The Wolfpack's difficulty in luring blue-chip players to Raleigh leaves them little margin for error. They went 3-3 over their final six games last year after winning their first six.

Nightmare schedule: Florida State. The Seminoles will play the ACC's four other 1991 bowl teams-Clemson,

Georgia Tech, Virginia and N.C. State-on the road. They also must go to Miami to play the national champions October 3.

Dream schedule: Virginia. The Cavaliers get to play the league's four other bowl teams at Charlottesville. They also have non-conference games against Navy and William & Mary. Their season-ending trip to Virginia Tech, however, will be no vacation.

Best matchup of the year: Florida State at Clemson, September 12. The ACC's top program of the 1980s plays host to perhaps its top one of the '90s.

Worst matchup of the year: Duke at Florida State, September 5. The Seminoles' first-ever game as an ACC member is against a team riding a five-game losing streak.

Shocker of the year: Maryland will beat Clemson on November 14 in College Park to give new Coach Mark Duffner his first ACC upset.

Bowl bound: Florida State and Clemson always go to bowl games-and usually win. North Carolina may have a better chance than Georgia Tech based on a softer non-conference schedule. Virginia has made four bowl trips since 1987, but possible NCAA sanctions (for alleged illegal loans to athletes) may derail the Cavs. Biggest shoes to fill: Virginia quarterback Matt Blundin's. At 6-foot-7, he has big shoes to fill, literally. But Bobby Goodman, a fifth-year senior, is a capable replacement for the league's 1991 Player of the Year.

Most underrated player: Tyler Lawrence, LB, N.C. State. Lawrence has been plagued by injuries and is virtually unknown outside the league. When healthy, though, he's a terror. He has 23 tackles for losses over the last two seasons, including 11 sacks.

Impact newcomers: Michael Cheever, C, Georgia Tech, Fr. (RS); Jason Dukes, OT, Georgia Tech, Fr. (RS); George Hegamin, OT, North Carolina

State, Fr. (RS); David Lowman, WR, Duke, Fr. (RS); Scott Milanovich, QB, Maryland, Fr. (RS); Bryce Nelson, C, Clemson, Jr. (JC); Elton Ogar, OG, Wake Forest, Fr. (RS); Kelly

HONOR ROLL

Best-hitting defensive lineman: Chris Slade, Virginia Best Ilasbackers: Florida State Best-hitting Hachteker: Marvin Jones, Florida State Best secondary: **North Carolina State** Best-bitting defensive back: Mike Reid, N.C. State Best kicking game: Georgia Tech

Rush, DT, Florida State, Jr. (JC); Clay Shiver, OL, Florida State, Fr. Coach of the year: Bill Lewis, Georgia Tech. Many people will write off the Yellow Jackets because of the coaching change, but Lewis is one of the top

coaches around. He was one of the leading candidates for national Coach of the Year honors last season after leading East Carolina to an 11-1 record and Peach Bowl victory.

Coach on the hot seat: Barry Wilson, Duke. His first two Blue Devil teams won four games

third edition isn't likely to do much better. Duke is 2-12 in the ACC since

Bost kick-coverage units:

North Carolina State

George Weish, Virginia

Best Helemen cendidate:

Best pro prospect:

Chris Slade, Virginia

Shawn Jones, Georgia Tech

Best cosching staff:

Florida State

Best cesch:

each year, and his Wilson took over. Best bets: N.C. State will start fast and finish slow. The Wolfpack is 21-3 over the first six games in its last four seasons, 9-13-1 after that point. . . . A quarterback controversy will develop at North Carolina, and possibly at Florida State, Clemson, Virginia, Maryland and Wake Forest. . . . Quotes from Clemson players will find their way onto the bulletin board in some opponent's locker room despite Coach Ken Hatfield's postseason efforts at diplomacy. . . . Georgia

All-ACC quarterback not from Virginia since 1988. . . . There will be charges of favoritism if Virginia does not receive a postseason ban from the NCAA. Dick Schultz, now the NCAA's executive director, was the Cavs' athletic director at the time of the alleged infractions. . . . Florida State's Bobby Bowden will be the conference's most

quoted coach in 1992.

Tech's Shawn Jones will be the first

Odds and ends: Georgia Tech (John Lewis and Scott Gold) and N.C. State (Mike Gee and Brent Bagwell) each lost both of their starting offensive guards to injury. All four had eligibility remaining. There's a chance, however, that Gee may play this year. . . . Virginia guards Mark Dixon and Jeff Tomlin missed spring practice with back injuries but are expected to return in the fall. . . . Clemson running back Ronald Williams, on his way to a 1,000-yard season before injuring a knee last season, may not play in '92 after undergoing arthroscopic surgery. . . . Only three teams have winning ACC records over the last five years: Clemson (28-6-1), Virginia (25-9-1) and N.C. State (20-14-1).... Three new coaches are entering the league this season, the most in any year except 1987.

-DOUG DOUGHTY

RETURNING LEADERS

Rushing: Natrone Means, North Carolina, 103 yds./game (201 att., 1,030 yds., 11 TDs, 5.1 avg.).

Passing efficiency: Shawn Jones, Georgia Tech, 109.2 rating pts. (339 att., 178 comp., 2,286 vds... 11 TDs \

Tetal effesse: Shawn Jones, Georgia Tech, 220.8 yds./game (361 yds. rushing, 2,288 yds. passing, 2,649 total yds.).

Receiving: John Henry Mills, Wake Forest, 4.6 rec./game (51 rec., 559 yds., 1 TD, 11.0 avg.). Scorlag: Nelson Welch, Clemson, 7.4 pts./game (0 TDs, 30 PATs, 17 FGs, 81 pts.)

Prating: Jason Bender, Georgia Tech, 39.6 avg. (45 punts, 1,780 yds.).

Pant ratures: Darnell Stephens, Clemson, 14.1 avg. (25 att., 352 yds., 1 TD). Kickoff returns: Brad Breedlove, Duke, 24.7 avg.

(17 att., 420 yds., 0 TDs). Field goals: Nelson Welch, Clemson, 1.6 FG/ game (17/26 FGs, 65%)

Interceptions: Sebastian Savage, .45 int./game (5 Int., 102 yds., 1 TD).



On the loose: Duke wide receiver Brad Breedlove is one of the league's best return men.

Hurricanes are the class of a QB-loaded Big East

By CHUCK FINDER Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

n its inaugural season, the Big East Conference produced a national champion (Miami), the nation's stingiest defense (also Miami) and three of the nation's top 10 punt re-

This year, the league will become a quarterbacks headquarters.

"You have Gino Torretta at Miami, Glenn Foley at Boston College, Alex Van Pelt at Pitt, Bryan Fortay at Rutgers-and where do you put Marvin Graves of Syracuse?" said Temple Coach Jerry Berndt, who was asked to pick the Big East's two best quarterbacks. He couldn't.

"There can't be a conference in the nation that has better-quality quarterbacks than we have," he said.

The statistics make the case. In Torretta (18th), Graves (20th), Foley (36th) and Van Pelt (44th), the Big East returns as many quarterbacks who finished last season among NCAA Division I-A's top 50 in passing efficiency as any other conference (the Big Ten also has four). But that doesn't take into account Rutgers' Fortay-a heralded Miami transfer—and the likely battle at West Virginia between incumbent Darren Studstill and Notre Dame transfer Jake Kelchner.

Torretta is at the head of the class. He was voted the Big East's Offensive Player of the Year after throwing for more yards (3,095) and touchdowns (20) in his first full season than did former Hurricane stars Craig Erickson, Steve Walsh, Vinny Testaverde, Bernie Kosar and Jim Kelly. He even outdid Testaverde's Heisman Trophy-winning season of 1986.

"Gino's improved a lot from last fall to last spring," Miami Coach Dennis Erickson said. "He's got the strongest arm of anybody I've had. Some people don't give him his due. In my opinion, he's the best quarterback in the country, without a doubt.'

And if Torretta's as good as he was in 1991, the Hurricanes are a good bet to be as good as they were, too.

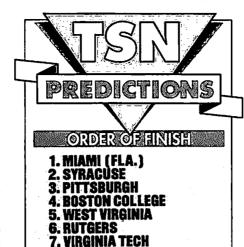
MIAMI (FLA.)

Coach: Dennis Erickson (33-3, 3 years; 83-34-1 overall, 10 years). 1991 record: 12-0 (beat Nebraska in Orange

Key losses: Hurlie Brown, S; Anthony Hamlet, DT;

Kelvin Harris, C; Carlos Huerta, K; Herbert James, CB; Claude Jones, OB; Eric Miller, DT; Joe Moore, TE; Charles Pharms, S; Leon Searcy, OG; Darryl

Starters reteraling: Offices (8): Rudy Barber, G, 6-3/285, Jr.; Coleman Bell, TE, 6-2/225, Sr.; Horace Copeland, SE, 6-3/200, Sr.; Mario Cristobal, T, 6-4/280, Sr.; Stephen McGuire, FB, 5-11/215, Sr.; Darryl Spencer, TB, 5-9/180, Sr.; Lamar Thomas, FL, 6-3/170, Sr.; Gino Terretta, QB, 6-3/205, Sr. Defence (6): Jessie Armstead, LB, 6-2/218, Sr.;



Micheal Barrow, LB, 6-2/230, Sr.; Ryan McNell, CB, 6-2/188, Sr.; Rusty Medearls, E, 6-3/245, Jr.; Kevin Patrick, E, 6-4/245, Jr.; Darrin Smith, LB, 6-1/228, Sr. Klekers [1]: Paul Snyder, P. 6-0/201,

Sr. Other key returnes: Damon Bethel, DE, Jr.; Mark Caesar, DT, Sr.; Frank Costa, QB, Soph.; Bruce Eberst, LB, Sr.; Corwin Francis, LB, Soph.; Casey Greer, S, Sr.; Terris Harris, S, Jr.; Chris Jones, WR, Soph.; Larry Jones, FB, Soph.; Darren Krein, DE, Jr.; Kenny Lopez, DT, Jr. (RS/knee); Patrick Riley, DT, Soph.; Dexter Seigler, CB, Jr.; Baraka Short, DE, Soph.; Kipp Vickers, QT, Sr.; Paul White, CB, Jr.; Kevin Williams, WR, Jr. Top newcozers: Robert Bass, LB, Jr. (JC); Dane Prewitt, K, Fr. (RS); James Stewart, FB, Fr. (RS); Chad Wilson, CB, Jr. (transfer/Long Beach State). Schische: At Iowa, Sept. 5; Flortida A&M, Sept. 19; Arizona; Sept. 26; Flortida State, Oct. 3; at Penn

Arizona, Sept. 28; Florida State, Oct. 3; at Penn State, Oct. 10; Texas Christian, Oct. 17; at Virginia Tech, Oct. 24; West Virginia, Oct. 31; Temple, Nov. 14; at Syracuse, Nov. 21; at San Diego State, Nov.

Niekname Hurricanes. Sile: Miami.

8. TEMPLE



Dangerous Hurricane: Darrin Smith is part of a trio of terrific Miami linebackers.

Outlook: Have no pity for the 'Canes. Fear them, but do not pity them. The defending champs return eight offensive starters (including all five at the skill positions) and six defensive starters (including five of the front seven). Pity their opponents.

Offensive strengths: With steady Gino Torretta at quarterback, flashy Lamar Thomas, speedy Kevin Williams and big-play man Horace Copeland at receiver, the offense is a sound Miami machine.

Offensive weaknesses: There are a few. The line needs work, and one returning starter, tackle Mario Cristobal, missed spring practice after having knee surgery. Fullback Stephen McGuire underwent reconstructive knee surgery, a major procedure that usually takes nine months to overcome, making his status for 1992 uncertain.

Defensive strengths: End Rusty Medearis had 10 sacks and 24 pressures a vear ago and rates among the best defensive players in the nation. The three linebackers-Darrin Smith, Micheal Barrow and Jessie Armstead (a combined 340 tackles in 1991)—are terrific.

Defensive weaknesses: Two new tackles and three defensive backs must be found. All but one of the candidates are sophomores or juniors.

Special teams: Williams is a deadly punt returner and probably the nation's most exciting player. Freshman Dane Prewitt will inherit the place-kicking duties from Mr. Automatic, Carlos Huerta.

Key to success: If McGuire can't go, another runner must be found to handle the grind-it-out chores in the backfield.

Sure sign of trouble: Trouble on the road. The Hurricanes must avoid being ambushed by 1991 bowl teams Iowa, Penn State, Syracuse and San Diego State in games away from home.

Coach Dennis Erickson says: "The schedule's much harder, much more demanding. If we have a chance to repeat, we'll have to be a better team than we were last year."

SYRACUSE

Coach: Paul Pasqualoni (10-2, 1 year; 44-19,

6 years). 1991 record: 10-2 (beat Ohio State in Hall of Fame

Key losses: John Capachione, OT; Andrew Dees, OT; John Lusardi, LB; Tony Montemorra, DB; John Nil-son, OG; George Rooks, DT; Tim Sandquist, DB; Greg Walker, DB; Jim Wentworth, DT.

Greg Walker, DB; Jim Wentworth, DT.
Starturs returning: Offices (8): Chris Gedney, TE, 6-5/231, Sr.; Marvin Graves, QB, 6-1/196, Jr.; Shelby Hill, WR, 6-0/194, Jr.; Qadry Ismail, WR, 6-0/192, Sr.; John Reagan, C, 6-5/267, Jr.; David Walker, RB, 5-9/213, Sr.; Terrence Wisdom, T, 6-4/296, Sr.; Al Wooten, FB, 5-11/232, Jr. Defesse (5): Garland Hawkins, LB, 6-3/236, Sr.; Dwayne Joseph, DB, 5-10/178, Jr.; Kevin Mitchell, NG, 6-1/247, Jr.; Jo Jo Wooden, LB, 6-4/243, Sr.; Glen Young, LB, 6-3/230, Sr. Kleters (2): John Biskup, K, 5-9/187, Sr.; Pat O'Neill, P, 6-1/189, Jr.
Diter two returness: Kyle Adams, OT, Jr.: Ousmane

Other key returness: Kyle Adams, OT, Jr.; Ousmane Bary, DB, Sr.; Ernle Brown, DT, Jr.; Chuck Bull, OG, Sr.; Dan Conley, LB, Jr. (missed '91/knee); Kerry

Ferrell, WR, Sr.; Antonio Johnson, WR, Sr.; Tony Jones, DB, Soph.; Terry Richardson, RB, Jr.; Jerry Sharp, OG, Sr.; Reggie-Terry, LB, Jr.; Chip Todd, LB, Jr.; Doug Wamack, OB/DB, Jr.

Co. J., Loug Williack, LD7 Db, 31.
Top gavecasers: None.
Scholdis: At East Carolina, Sept. 5; Texas, Sept. 12;
Ohio State, Sept. 19; at Louisville, Oct. 3; Rutgers,
Oct. 10; at West Virginia, Oct. 17; at Temple, Oct.
24; Pittsburgh, Oct. 31; Virginia Tech, Nov. 7; at
Boston College, Nov. 14; Miami (Fla.), Nov. 21.
Michange Orangemen. Nickeere: Orangemen. 8lts: Syracuse, N.Y.

Outlook: The Orangemen believe they have the talent to compete for the national championship, something they haven't won since 1959. They made a solid run at it in '87, but this team may be better.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Marvin Graves showed some fancy passing ability last season despite nagging injuries. If healthy, there's no telling what he can do. Running back David Walker and receivers Shelby Hill and Qadry (The Missile) Ismail could be spectacular players.

Offensive weaknesses: The line needs to be retooled. Tackle Terrence Wisdom is a keeper, but upperclassmen with little playing experience and redshirt fresh-

men must develop quickly.

Defensive strengths: The linebackers are solid, but the Orangemen need inside man Dan Conley to return healthy from reconstructive knee surgery. Nose tackle Kevin Mitchell hits harder than his baseball namesake.

Defensive weaknesses: Three starters were lost in the secondary, forcing Pasqualoni to move option quarterback Doug Womack to cornerback. Injuries to starters could put the squeeze on the

Orange, who lack depth.

Special teams: This is traditionally a Syracuse strength. It will be no different in 1992 with Pat O'Neill handling the punting and John Biskup the placekicking. O'Neill's kickoffs are nonreturnable.

·Key to success: A fast start. The Orangemen open at East Carolina before coming home to play Texas and Ohio State. If unscathed at that point, they could welcome Miami to the Carrier Dome on November 21 with a perfect record.

Sure sign of trouble: If the team doctor or the secondary is on the field a lot.

Coach Paul Pasqualoni says: "It's going to be crucial that we stay healthy."

PITTSBURGH

Cosch: Paul Hackett (10-12-1, 2 years). 1991 record: 6-5.

Key losses: Jeff Christy, OG; Dave Coleman, CB; Glenn Deveaux, FB; Sean Gilbert, DE; Keith Hamilton, DE; Steve Israel, CB; Ricardo McDonald, LB; Scott Miller, OT; Dave Moore, TE; Eric Seaman, TE; Nelson Walker, LB.

Netson Walker, Lo. Starters returning: Offesse [6]: Chris Bouyer, WR, 6-2/175, Sr.; Reuben Brown, T, 6-4/310, Soph.; Gary Gorajewski, G, 6-4/282, Sr.; Curtis Martin, TB, 6-0/188, Soph.; Chris Sestili, C, 6-4/278, Sr.; Alex Van Pelt, QB, 6-2/225, Sr. Delense [6]: Tom Barndt, T, 6-4/270, Soph.; Mike Kelly, E, 6-3/265, Jr.; Lex Perkins, S. 6-2/205, Sr.; Tom Tumulty, LB, 6-4/240, Soph.; Doug Whaley, S, 5-11/185, Jr.;



Defensive general: Linebacker Tom McManus, who registered 165 tackles last year, is a leader of an experienced Boston College defense that returns nine starters.

Charles Williams, LB, 6-3/250, Jr. Kickers (2): Scott Kaplan, K, 6-1/190, Sr.; Leon Theodorou, P. 5-10/187, Sr

5-10/10/, Sr.
Otter key, returnses: Shawn Abinet, OL, Sr.; Rob.
Coons; TE, Sr. (RS/wrist); Tinker Harris, DB, Jr.;
Chris Hupko, DB, Soph.; Dietrich Jells, WR. Soph.;
Kevin Leon, P, Sr.; Mike Livorio, OL, Sr.; Lawson
Mollica, OG, Soph.; Jermaine Williams, RB, Sr.
Top sawcomers: Marcus Royster, DL, Jr. (JC); Dell

Seagraves OL, Fr. Sebratic Kent, Sept. 5; West Virginia, Sept. 12; at Rutgers, Sept. 17; Minnesota, Sept. 26; at Mary-land, Oct. 3; Notro Dame, Oct. 10; at Temple, Oct. 10; at Temple, Oct. 10; at Temple, Oct. 31; 17; East Carolina, Oct. 24; at Syracuse, Oct. 31; Louisville, Nov. 14; at Penn State, Nov. 21; at Ha-

Hicksens: Panthers. Site: Pittsburgh.

Outlook: Pittsburgh might be the Big East's best after a precipitous drop from the Big Two of Miami and Syracuse. The Panthers have a potent offense, but their postseason bowl odds probably hinge on solid play from a suspect defense.

Offensive strengths: Running backs Jermaine Williams and Curtis Martin combined for 1,171 yards last season despite nagging injuries. Quarterback Alex Van Pelt should rebound from offseason elbow surgery to break most of Dan Marino's school records. Pitt has added speed and flexibility to an attack that even Coach Paul Hackett has called too predictable.

Offensive weaknesses: Last year's two starting tight ends must be replaced. The line, most of whose members missed spring practice due to surgeries, needs better cohesion.

Defensive strengths: With returning starters at noseguard, both inside linebacking spots and at free and strong safety, the Panthers appear strong up the middle.

Defensive weaknesses: The perimeter defense-ends, outside linebackers and cornerbacks-must be rebuilt. The unit also will be young, with as few as four seniors being probable starters and two others in backup roles.

Special teams: Pitt was inconsistent here most of last year, and improvement was a top off-season priority. Kevin Leon averaged 42 yards per punt before being suspended by the NCAA for seven games for a recruiting violation. A host of candidates will vie for the place-kicking job.

Keys to success: A defense that stops other people and an offense that doesn't stop itself.

Sure sign of trouble: Offensive players falling asleep on the sidelines from lack of work.

Coach Paul Hackett says: "So much youth. There's so many young people at every position."

BOSTON COLLEGE

Coach: Tom Coughlin (4-7, 1 year; 20-22-2

Cores Torresponding Coverall, 4 years);
1991 resort: 4-7.
Key lesses: Mark Chmura, TE; Mike Jovanovich; OT; Mark Kennedy, OS; Bill Kushner, P; Jay McGille, S; 5-9/171, Jr. (out for season/leukemia); Matt

Stirters returning: Offices (7): Dan Britten, T, 6-5/ 268, Sr.: Darnell Campbell, FB, 6-2/223, Sr.: Clar-ence Cannon, SE, 5-11/160, Soph Chuckle

Continued

ALL-BIG

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Ginn Torretta. QB, Miami

DEFENSE



Darrin Smith. LB. Miami

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Bryan Fortay, QB, Rutgers DEFEMSE: Davin Miles, T, Temple

OFFENSE

		₹*	
P68.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
WR	HORACE COPELAND, Miami	6-3/200	Sr.
WR	LAMAR THOMAS, Miami	6-3/170	Sr.
TE	COLEMAN BELL, Miami	6-2/225	Sr.
T	TRE JOHNSON, Temple	6-3/299	Jr.
T	TERRENCE WISDOM, Syracuse	6-4/296	Sr.
C	MIKE COMPTON, West Virginia	6-7/289	Sr.
G	RUDY BARBER, Miami	6-3/285	Jr.
G	LORENZO STYLES, West Virginia	6-5/270	Sr.
QB	GINO TORRETTA, Miami	6-3/205	Sr.
RB	STEPHEN McGUIRE, Miami	5-11/215	Sr.
RB	ADRIAN MURRELL, West Virginia	6-0/200	Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	MARK CAESAR, Miami	6-2/290	Sr.
DL	RUSTY MEDEARIS, Miami	6-3/245	Jr.
DL	KEVIN MITCHELL, Syracuse	6-1/247	Jг.
LB	JESSIE ARMSTEAD, Miami	6-2/218	Sr.
LB	MICHEAL BARROW, Miami	6-2/230	Sr.
LB	DARRIN SMITH, Miami	6-1/228	Sr.
LB	TOM TUMULTY, Pittsburgh	6-4/240	Soph.
OB	TYRONNE DRAKEFORD, Va. Tech	5-10/185	Jr.
DB	MALIK JACKSON, Rutgers	6-1/224	Jг.
DB	DWAYNE JOSEPH, Syracuse	5-10/178	Soph.
DB	RYAN McNEIL, Miami	6-2/188	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

K JOHN BISKUP, Syracuse 5	t./Wi. Class -9/187 Sr. -1/189 Jr.	•
---------------------------	---	---

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class			
WR	BO CAMPBELL, Virginia Tech	5-11/184	Sr.			
WR	SHELBY HILL, Syracuse	6-0/194	Jr.			
TE	CHRIS GEDNEY, Syracuse	6-5/231	Sr.			
T	RICH BRAHAM, West Virginia	6-5/260	Jr.			
Т	DAN BRITTEN, Boston College	6-5/268	Sr.			
C	JIM PYNE, Virginia Tech	6-2/257	Jr.			
G	BRIAN ERWIN, Temple	6-2/265	Sr.			
G	LAWSON MOLLICA, Pittsburgh	6-4/270	Soph.			
QB	MARVIN GRAVES, Syracuse	6-1/196	Jr.			
RB	LARRY JONES, Miami	6-0/240	Soph.			
RB	DAVID WALKER, Syracuse	5-9/213	Sr.			
	DEPENDE					

DEFENSE

DL ERNIE BROWN, Syracuse DL JEROME PRESTON, Virginia Tech DL JOHN STOLBERG, Boston College		Jr. Sr. Sr.
	6-2/254	
DL JOHN STOLBERG, Boston College		Sr.
	6-2/229	
LB DAN CONLEY, Syracuse		Jr.
LB TOM McMANUS, Boston College	6-2/240	Sr.
LB SHAWN WILLIAMS, Rutgers	6-2/247	Sr.
LB GLEN YOUNG, Syracuse	6-3/230	Sr.
DB JAY BELLAMY, Rutgers	5-11/183	Jr.
DB CHARLIE BRENNAN, Boston Coll.	5-11/167	Sr.
DB MIKE COLLINS, West Virginia	5-11/190	Jr.
DB LEX PERKINS, Pittsburgh	6-2/205	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
PK	DANE PREWITT, Miami	5-11/192	Fr.
Ρ	KEVIN LEON, Pittsburgh	6-0/200	Sr.

Dukes, TB, 5-9/185, Sr.; Glenn Foley, DB, 6-2/208, Jr.; Keith Miller, FL, 5-11/180, Jr.; Tom Naten, C. 6-3/286, Jr. Duffusse (9): Stephen Boyd, LB, 6-1/233, Soph.; Charlie Brennan, S, 5-11/167, Sr.; Joe Kamara, CB; 5-8/164, Sophi; Dan Korr, LB, 6-4/230, Jr.; Mike Martharo, T, 6-3/265, Sr.; Tom McManus, LB, 6-2/240, Sr.; Jason Pohopek, LB, 6-1/220, Sr.; Mike Reed, CB, 5-9/173, Soph.; John Stolberg, NG, 6-2/254, Sr. Kickers [1]: Sean Wright, K, 5-11/160, Sr. Olker key reterwise: Pete Mitchell, TE, Jr.; Ted Page, OT, Soph.; Ron Stone; OT (moved from DT)) Sr. Top sewcomers: Pete Kendall, OG; Fr. (RS); Gordon, Laro, TE, Soph. (transfer/Michigan)
Sehafule: Augers, Sept. 5, Northwestern, Sept. 12; Navy, Sept. 19; Michigan State, Sept. 26; at West Virginia, Oct. 3, at Penn State, Oct. 10; at Tulane, Oct. 24; Temple, Oct. 31; at Nofre Dame, Nov. 7; Syracuse, Nov. 14; at Army, Nov. 21. Nickense; Eagles;

Outlook: Boston College's last five games of 1991 included three wins, a loss at Syracuse and a 19-14 defeat at the hands of top-ranked Miami that went down to the final play. If the Eagles start this season in a manner similar to the way they finished the last one, they could create some havoc.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Glenn Foley threw for 21 touchdowns and 2,222 yards and cut down his interceptions as well. The backfield duo of Darnell Campbell and Chuckie Dukes combined for 1,253 yards. Tight end Pete Mitchell is a capable replacement for Mark Chmura, the Eagles' all-time leading receiver.

Offensive weaknesses: The line has been refurbished, with defensive tackle Ron Stone being moved to offense, but



Choose a flavor: Adrian Murrell, who hails from the 50th state, supplies some Hawaiian punch in the backfield.

it's still a question mark. There also is no proven backup to Foley.

Defensive strengths: Linebackers Tom McManus (165 tackles) and Jason Pohopek (six sacks) are the leaders of an experienced unit that returns nine starters.

Defensive weaknesses: The defense is experienced, but slow. To speed things up, the Eagles may use two freshmen at cornerback and three redshirt freshmen at other spots on defense as well.

Special teams: Place-kicker Sean Wright made only six field goals all season, and none was longer than 34 yards. On the positive side, the Eagles blocked six kicks. A new punter must be found.

Key to success: A quick start. Boston College opens the season against four beatable foes. The Eagles opened last season at 0-4.

Sure sign of trouble: A lot of turnovers. Coach Tom Coughlin says: "Hopefully, we'll protect the passer and throw the ball better. And, heck, we don't score enough. We've got to score more points."

WEST VIRGINIA

Coach: Don Néhlen (87-51-2, 12 years; 140-86-6 overall, 21 years).

1991 record: 6-5.
Key losses: Joe Ayuso, OG; Cecil Doggette, DB;
Steve Grant, LB; Jim Gray, DT; Tim Newsom, DB;
John Ray, OT; Alex Sticok, TE; Darrell Whitmore,

Starters returning: Offense [7]: Rich Braham, T, 6-5/260, Jr.; Mike Compton, C, 6-7/289, Sr.; Garrett Ford, RB, 6-1/223, Sr.; James Jett, WR, 5-10/160,

Sr.; Adrian Murrell, TB; 6-0/200, Sr.; Darren Stud-Sr.; Adrian Murrell, TB, 6-0/200, Sr.; Darren Studstill, OB, 6-2/185, Jr.; Lorenzo Styles, 6, 8-5/270, Sr. Batese (6): Leroy Axem, OB, 5-11/170, Sr. Mike Collins, S. 5-11/190, Jr.; Rick Dolly, T. 6-4/250, Sr.; Borts Graham, E. 8-2/230, Sr.; Wes Richardson, LB, 6-2/212, Jr.; James Wright, LB; 6-2/212, Soph. Kreters (2): Mark Johnson, K, 5-7/137, Sn.; Mike Vanderlagt P, 6-5/210, Sr. Other toy retireses: Tarris Alexander, LB, Jr.; (RS/knee); Mike Baker, WR, Sr.; Barry Hawkins, DT, Soph.; Jon Jones, RB, Jr.; Jim LeBlane, OB, Sr.; David Mayfield, S. Soph.; Stave Redd, DT, Jr.; (RS/ankle); Kwarrie Smith, CB, Sr.; Matt Taffoni, LB, Soph.

Tep sewcomers: Jimmy Bary, TB, Soph: (RS/academics); Jake Kelchner, OB, Jr. (transfer/Notre

Bamo): Sectorie: Miami of Ohio: Sept. 5: at Pittsburgh; Sept. 12: Maryland; Sept. 19: at Virginia Tech; Sept. 26: Boston College, Oct. 3: Syractise, Oct. 17: Penn State, Oct. 24: at Miami (Fia.); Oct. 31; East Carolina, Nov. 7; at Rutgers, Nov. 14; Louisiana Tech, Nov. 21.

Michame: Mountaineers: Site: Morgantown, W.Va.

Outlook: Last season, West Virginia had trouble scoring points and lost to the four best teams it faced by a combined score of 128-22. Last spring, the slightly remodeled Mountaineers showed signs of hope. But there's one problem: Those same four teams—Pittsburgh, Penn State, Miami and Syracuse-are on the schedule again.

Offensive strengths: Adrian Murrell, who halls from the 50th state, supplies some Hawaiian punch (904 yards in 1991) in the backfield. Jon Jones will be the backup tailback and Garrett Ford the starting fullback. Option quarterback Darren Studstill returns, but he'll have to fend off a challenge from heralded Notre Dame transfer Jake Kelchner to keep his starting job.

Offensive weaknesses: Interceptions. The Mountaineers-primarily Studstill—had nearly twice as many passes picked off (17) as were caught for touchdowns (nine). Just as important, they got the ball to aptly named receiver James Jett just nine times. No throw, no go.

Defensive strengths: Six starters and plenty of reserves are back. The linebackers and ends are good and fast.

Defensive weaknesses: The secondary lost three-quarters of last season's starting unit to graduation. Junior Mike Collins is a standout strong safety, but he needs new running mates.

Special teams: Place-kicker Mark Johnson must improve on a 1991 season in which he missed four of six field-goal attempts beyond 30 yards. Punter Mike Vanderjagt is adequate.

·Key to success: A ball-control offense that more than occasionally deposits the football in the end zone.

Sure signs of trouble: A quarterback controversy and a losing record by the time Boston College, Syracuse and Penn State visit Morgantown in Octo-

Coach Don Nehlen says: "The average fan on the street keeps asking me one thing: 'Can Kelchner play?' I want to know, too. He hasn't played a lot of college football yet, but he's a big, strong guy and he certainly wants a chance."



Loaded defense: Nine starters, including linebacker Shawn Williams, return from a Rutgers unit that finished second in the Big East and 27th in I-A in total defense last fall.

RUTGERS

Couch: Doug Graber (9-13, 2 years; 15-18:

Corch: Doug Graber (9-13, 2 years, 13-10 overall, 8 years).
1991 reserts 6-5.
Key tosises: Ron Allen, DB; Tim Christ, OB; Gary Molton, WR; Allen Mitchell, OT; Tom Tarver, OB; Elnardo Webster; LB.
Starters returning: Offices (7): Travis Broadbent, C, 6-2/280, Sr., doe Claffon), G, 6-2/289, Sr., Ken Dammann, T, 6-4/277, Jr.; Tekay, Dorsey, FB, 6-1/220, Sr.; Jim Guarantano, WR, 5-9/172, Sr.; Antolne Moore, TB, 5-11/220, Sr.; Chris Stell, TE, 6-3/237, Jr.; Definis (9): Andrew Beckett, T, 6-4/263, Sr.; Jay Bellamy, S (will move to CB), 5-5/1/244 263, Sr.; Jay Bellamy, S (will move to CB), 5-17, 263, Sr.; Jay Bellamy, S (will move to CB), 5-17, 183, Jr.; Jamil, Jackson, LB, 5-17/24, Jr.; Malik, Jackson, S.6-7/224, Jr.; Kory Kozak, T, 6-2/260, Sr.; Todd Lane, LB, 6-0/252, Sr.; Marshall Roberts, CB, 5-9/179, Sr.; Mike Spitzer, T, 6-4/288, Jr.; Shawm Williams, LB, 6-2/247, Sr.; Kickers [2]: John Reposted, K. 5-17/200, Jr.; David District John Benestad, K, 5-11/200, Jr.; David Dunne, P. 8-1/190.Sr.

Other key returness: Doug Adkins, S, Sr.; Tim Seckelar, DB, Jr.; Keith Price, DB, Soph.; Shaun Smith,

DB, Jr.
Top newcomers: Marco Battaglia, TE, Fr. (RS);
Bryan Fortay, QB, Jr. (transfer/Miami, Fla.);
Marlo Henry, WR, Soph. (transfer/South Carolina); Bruce Presley, RB, Fr. (RS); Scott Vaughn,
OT, Soph. (transfer/Clemson); Eddle Walker, WR,
Fr. (RS); Mark Washington, DB, Fr. (RS); Kelly
Woodward, DB, Jr. (JC).
Schrifte: At Boston College, Sept. 5; Colgate, Sept.
12; Pittsburgh, Sept. 17; at Navy, Sept. 26; Penn
State, Oct. 3; at Syracuse, Oct. 10; Army, Oct. 17;

Virginia Tech, Oct: 31; at Cincinnati, Nov. 7; West-Virginia, Nov. 14; at Templa, Nov. 21; Richanne Scarlet Kritghts. Sile: New Brunswick, N.J.

Outlook: The Scarlet Knights' fortunes are riding on the arm of quarterback Bryan Fortay, who left Miami in 1991 after being passed over for the Hurricanes' No. 1 job. Unfortunately for Fortay, he'll have to wait a year to prove the 'Canes wrong-Miami and Rutgers don't play each other in 1992.

Offensive strengths: If Fortay, a hometown boy from East Brunswick, N.J., is as good as advertised, the offense could dazzle. Fellow newcomers Mario Henry, Eddie Walker and Marco Battaglia should bolster the receiving corps. Another rookie, Bruce Presley, should add speed at running back.

Offensive weaknesses: The new kids must be game-breakers, because the old ones weren't. Rutgers averaged only 11.9 yards per catch and 2.9 yards per rush in '91, and only one running back had a carry of more than 19 yards. Defensive strengths: Nine starters are back on a unit that finished second in the Big East and 27th in I-A in total defense last fall. Three starters from a secondary that allowed just 10 touchdown passes also return: free safety Malik Jackson, safety-turnedcornerback Jay Bellamy and cornerback Marshall Roberts.

Defensive weaknesses: The front line can be pushed around, as evidenced by the 893 yards and eight rushing touchdowns it yielded over the final five games. Team-leading tackler Elnardo Webster will be hard to replace.

Special teams: The kicking game is adequate at best. Roberts ranked 10th in I-A in punt-return average (13.4).

Key to success: Gaining confidence in early games against Boston College and Pittsburgh.

Sure sign of trouble: Getting pasted by Colgate in between.

Coach Doug Graber says: "Last year's team was a team that won a lot of close games (four by a touchdown or less) and competed. I don't know how this team will respond. But this will be our best team physically."

VIRGINIA TECH

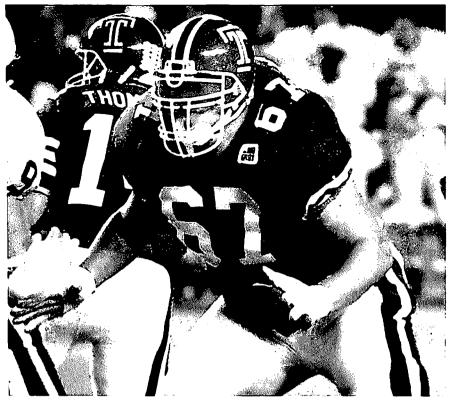
Coach: Frank Beamer (22-32-1, 5 years: 64-55-3 overall, 11 years).

1991 resert: 5-6.

Key lesses: William Boatwright, OG; Phil Bryant, FB: Bryan Campbell, DT; Eugene Churig, OT; Greg Daniels, TE; Will Furrer, OB; John Granby, CB; James Hargrove, DE; Woosfer Pack, DE; Damien

Russell, S. Sturtura returning, Offense [8]: Bo Campbell, SE, 5-11/184, Sr.; Tony Kennedy, TB, 5-11/212, Sr.; Damler McMahon, G, 8-4/277, Soph.; Jim Pyne, C.6-2/257, Jr.; Steve Sanders, FL, 5-8/450, Jr.; Marc Vernial, T, 6-8/277, Sr.; Batasse [8]: Ken, Brown, LB, 6-2/227, Soph.; Melendez Byrd, LB, 6-0/215, Sr.; Tyronne Drakeford, CB, 5-10/185, Jr.; Rusty Pendleton, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Jeroms Preston, 1, 6-5/286, Sr.; P. P. Preston, 18, 8-2/221, Kicher. 5/288, Sr.; P.J. Preston, LB, 6-2/221, Jr. Kickers

Continued



Sleeker and stronger? Temple hopes offensive tackle Tre Johnson packs more wallop at less weight this year.

(2): Ryan Williams, K. 6-4/260, Soph.; Jack Wiltshire, P. 6-0/186, Jr.
Other key returned: Kirk Alexander, S. Sr.; Bernard
Basham, DE, Jr.; John Burke, TE, Jr.; Maurice Des
Shazo, QB, Soph.; Vaughin Hebrom, TB, Sr.; Stacy
Henley, CB, Soph.; Chris Holt; OT, Sr.; Greg Lassiter, DB, Sr.; Mark-Poindexter, EB, Sr.; Mike
Smith, OT, Soph.; Billy Swarm, DE, Soph.; David
Wilmmer, DE, Sr.

Wimmer, DE, Sr. Verminer, U.S. St., Top sewscens: Joel Chapman, DT, Fr. (RS); Hank Coleman, LB, Fr. (RS); Bill Conaty, C, Fr.; Jim Druckenmiller, OB, Fr.; Tommy Edwards, TB, Fr.; Fred Lassiter, OB, Fr. (RS); Chris Malone, OG, Fr. (RS); Eugene Mays, DT, Fr.; J.C. Price, DE, Fr. (RS); Bryan Still, WR, Fr.; Lenarick Thomas, DB,

Fr. Schriste: James Madison, Sept. 5; at East Carolina, Sept. 12; at Tempte, Sept. 19; West Virginia, Sept. 26; at Louisville, Oct. 10; North Carolina State; Oct. 17; Mami. (Fia.), Oct. 24; at Rutgers, Oct. 31; at Syracuse, Nov. 7; Southern Mississippi, Nov. 14; Virginia, Nov. 21, Nickname Hokkes.

Site: Blacksburg, Va.

Outlook: Last season, the Hokies anticipated prosperity and got adversity. This season, no one knows what to expect. Eighteen of Tech's top 44 players will be playing their first season of college football.

Offensive strengths: Virginia Tech's top three receivers, including Bo Campbell, are back, along with the tailback tandem of Tony Kennedy (684 yards) and Vaughn Hebron (524). Standout center Jim Pyne anchors the line.

Offensive weaknesses: The Hokies need a quarterback. And whoever he is, he'll have to grow up in a hurry. The top candidates are redshirt freshman Fred Lassiter, true freshman Jim Druckenmiller and sophomore Maurice De-Shazo, a third-stringer in '91. DeShazo actually accumulated more yards catching passes (32) than he did throwing them (26).

Defensive strengths: Like many Big East teams, the Hokies are loaded at linebacker. Outside men P.J. Preston and Ken Brown combined for 118 tackles last year, while Rusty Pendleton and Melendez Byrd handle the inside duties.

Defensive weaknesses: Except for cornerback Tyronne Drakeford, the secondary is completely new. The line needs a healthy Jerome Preston, who had reconstructive knee surgery at the end of last year.

Special teams: Campbell's 18.2-yard punt-return average led all I-A players. The punting and place-kicking are solid, even though Tech attempted only seven field goals last year.

Key to success: A big-play defense that will allow the offense room for error.

Sure signs of trouble: Instability at quarterback and a losing record after five games. The last six aren't easy.

Coach Frank Beamer says: "I think they're talented people. It's just that some of them haven't played a lot. How well they play quickly will determine how well we play."

TEMPLE

Coach: Jerry Berndt (10-23, 3 years; 54-77-8

overall, 13 years).

1991 resurt: 2-9.

Key fesse: Greg Angeli, LB; Leon Brown, RB; Swift Burch; DT; George Deveney, TE; Eric Fenwick, UT; James, Harris, LB; Brian Kullkowski, OT; Dennis McCate, OG; Tony Schmitz, S; Leslie Shepherd, WR: Santo Stephens, LB; Conrad Swanson, RB; Alphonso Taylor, NG; Trent Thompson, QB/P. Startura returaling: Offense (4); Brian Erwin, G, 6-2/

pronso 18ylor, NB: Trent Thompson, UB/P.
Startist returning Offense, [4]; Brian Erwin, 6, 6-2/265, Sr.; Sam. Jenkins, TB, 5-10/188, Sr.; Tre
Johnson, T., 6-3/299, Jr.; Glenn Tinner, T., 6-4/
27.1, Jr. Diffusie (4); Kelta Crescina, CB, 5-9/185,
Sr.; Gary Downing, LB, 8-2/222, Sr.; Kyle Glasper,
CB, 5-9/154, Jr.; Daryl Nelson, S, 6-2/208, Sr.
Kiekers [1]: Mike Knuth, K, 6-0/181, Sr.
Clitic lay returnees John Bognanno, LB, Sr.; Joe
Burgos, OG, Sn.; Efrain Cabrera, FB, Sr.; Russell
Caso, TE, Soph.; Scott, Dennis, LB, Sr.; Adrian,
Drones, LB, Soph.; Jeff Frederick, WR, Soph.
(missed '91/2cadsmics): Roman Hale, LB, Sr.;
Scott Holland, DL, Jr. (RS/leg); Tim Israel, WR,
Soph.; Jeroid Jeffcoat, NG, Sr.; Dave Klukow, P.
Soph.; Lew Lawhorn, WR, Soph.; Greg Liberty, LB,
Sr. (RS/knee); Ralphial Mack, TB, Soph.; Deandre
McChurkin, DT, Jr.; Chris Paliscak, QB, Soph.
Tog urvecsura: Tony Angelo, S, Jr. (JC): Andrew
Brown, LB, Soph. (transfer/Minnesota); Jermell
Fleming, WR, Soph. (Prop 48); Lance Johnstone,
LB, Fr.; Robert McWilliams, DB, Fr.; Davin Miles,
DT, Jr. (JC); Dwayne Miller, DB, Soph. (RS); John
Summerday: OT, Fr.; Wilbur Washington, WR, Jr.
(JC):
Schoffle Roston University: Sept 5: at Penn Stafe

Sept. 12; Virginia Tech, Sept. 19; at Penn State, Sept. 12; Virginia Tech, Sept. 19; at Kansas State, Sept. 26; at Washington State, Oct. 3; Pittsburgh, Oct. 17; Syracuse, Oct. 24; at Boston College, Oct. 31; at Akron, Nov. 7; at Miami (Fla.), Nov. 14; Rut-ders Nov. 21 gers, Nov. 21.

Site: Philadelphia.,

Outlook: It's an understatement to say the Owls are inconsistent. Over the last three years, they've gone from 1-10 to 7-4 to 2-9. Take away the wins against Division I-AA opponents Howard and Navy last season, and Temple lost nine games by a cumulative score of 276-84. Ouch. Maybe it's good that 14 starters have departed.

Offensive strengths: The passing game will be better. It has to be. Temple completed 41 percent of its passes for an average of 108 yards per game and had twice as many interceptions as touchdowns (16-8). Tackle Tre Johnson and guard Brian Erwin should pack more wallop at less weight this year.

Offensive weaknesses: There's no quarterback on the roster older than a sophomore and the receivers, while fast, are inexperienced, too.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Roman Hale (6-foot, 217 pounds) is undersized, but his coach calls him a "hitting machine." The machine produced

75 tackles last year.

Defensive weaknesses: Almost everywhere else. Five junior college transfers are likely to play soon and often.

Special teams: The loss of Trent Thompson means the Owls lost both their starting quarterback and their punter. The latter duties may go to a former high-wire artist, Dave Klukow, a player. nearly twice as old (36) as many of his teammates.

Keys to success: Good play on offense, defense and special teams. In other words, everywhere.

Sure sign of trouble: A dog-day afternoon in the season opener at home against the Boston University Terriers on September 5.

Coach Jerry Berndt says: "I'm really excited about this team. Last year's team underachieved. This team seems like a bunch of overachievers."

SCOUTTION: FIRE EAST

Ascending: Boston College and Rutgers. Last year, the Eagles battled Michigan to the final quarter, and Penn State and Miami to the final play, before losing. Second-year Coach Tom Coughlin's team may do

Best offensive line:

Bost offensive backflotd:

Bost backup quarterback:

Bast wide receivers:

Bost clutch receiver:

Bost defensive line:

Jake Kelchner, West Virginia

James Guarantano, Rutgers

Pittsburgh

Mlami

Mlami

Miami

better than expected in 1992 thanks to a kinder, gentler schedule. The Scarlet Knights doubled their victory total from the previous season and again convinced some of the better players in talent-laden New Jersey to stay home.

Descending: Virginia Tech. The

Hokies' decline may actually be a planned one. They've redshirted almost everything that moves over the last three seasons and have 88 freshmen and sophomores on this year's team. Tech seems willing to stagger through the present for the sake of the future.

Nightmare schedule: Believe it or not, it's Miami's. It's nothing the Hurricanes can't handle, of course, but games at Iowa, Penn State and Syracuse stand in the way of a possible undefeated season. And don't forget about Florida State coming to Miami on October 3.

Dream schedule: Syracuse. The slate isn't a cakewalk, to be sure, but the Orangemen will face their stiffest competitors at home. If they can start the season with a victory at East Carolina and then beat Texas and Ohio State in the Carrier Dome, watch out.

Best matchup of the year: Miami at Syracuse, November 21. This game probably will decide the Big East title and bowl-game matchups.

Worst matchup of the year: Florida A&M at Miami, September 19. No, guys, it's Florida that Hurricane fans want back on the schedule, not Florida A&M. The last time Miami played this Division I-AA school, the Hurricanes won, 49-0. And that was in 1980, before they got good.

Shocker of the year: Pittsburgh at Hawaii, December 5. The visiting Panthers won't be ready for the Rainbows with their minds on the beach.

Bowl bound: Miami, Syracuse and one from the foursome of Pittsburgh, West Virginia, Boston College and Rutgers. If Pitt beats both West Virginia and Rutgers in a span of less than a week (September 12 and 17), it gets first dibs.

Biggest shoes to fill: There are two pair, those occupied by Pitt tight ends Dave Moore and Eric Seaman. That

duo caught 91 passes in '91, but the Panthers think massive junior college transfer Rob Coons can do the job in their new two-back, one-tight end alignment.

HONOR ROLL

Best-kitting defensive linemen: Kevin Mitchell, Syracuse Best linebackers: Mami

Best-bitting linebacker: Tom McManus, Boston College Bost secondary: Rutgers

Best-Litting Coleanive back: Lex Perkins, Pittsburgh

Best kicking game: Syracuse

Most underrated player: Marvin Graves, QB, Syracuse. He started his career as an option specialist but now passes with the best of them. Only five quarterbacks of the 19 ahead of him in the pass-efficiency ratings last year

Best kick-coverage units:

Dennis Erickson, Miami

Gino Torretta, QB, Miami

Horace Copeland, WR, Mlami

Bast Helsman candidata:

Best pro prospect:

Best coaching staff:

Rutgers

Syracuse

Bost coach:

averaged more than his 8.7 yards per attempt.

Impact newcomers: Mitchell Carr, CB, Boston College, Fr.; Bryan Fortay, QB, Rutgers, Jr. (transfer/Miami); Mario Henry, WR, Rutgers, Soph. (transfer/South Carolina); Jake Kelchner, QB, West Virginia, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame);

Davin Miles, DT, Temple, Jr. (JC); Dane Prewitt, K, Miami, Fr. (RS).

Coach of the year: Paul Pasqualoni, Syracuse. This will be the year he escapes Dick MacPherson's shadow and makes his name known. No more Coach Pastrami or Pasquale or Pascarelli.

Coach on the hot seat: Paul Hackett, Pittsburgh. Both fans and a first-year athletic director want a bowl season.

Best bets: West Virginia will split with Miami, beating the one from Ohio and losing to the one from Florida. . . . Syracuse will surge in the polls before struggling at midseason. . . . The Temple-Akron game at the Rubber Bowl on November 7 will not be on television. . . . A quarterback controversy between Darren Studstill and Jake Kelchner will develop at West Virginia if the team starts slowly.... The Florida State-Miami game on October 3 will be hyped as the Game of the Year, only to be topped the following week by Miami-Penn State.

Odds and ends: Temple's starting punter may be a former Flying Wallenda, 36-year-old Dave Klukow. He quit the trapeze business, tried his hand at real work, then decided to go to college. Last year, Owl teammates teased him that his taste in music leaned toward Sonny and Cher. Said Coach Jerry Berndt: "He's older than four or five of the assistants." . . . A year ago, cornerback Chad Wilson started for Long Beach State against Miami as a sophomore. This year, he will play for Miami as a junior backup, having transferred there after the 49ers dropped football. . . . Virginia Tech should take a cue from the name of its defensive ends, Basham and Swarm (Bernard and Billy)... Pitt's roster includes six guys named Williams: Charles, Jermaine, Jim, Kevin, Maurice and Vince. Three of them may start.

-CHUCK FINDER

RETURNING LEADERS

Rushing: David Walker, Syracuse, 88.1 yds./ game (169 att., 969 yds., 7 TDs, 5.7 avg.). Passing efficiency: Gino Torretta, Miami, 138.8 rating pts. (371 att., 205 comp., 3,095 yds., 20

Total offense: Gino Torretta, Miami, 286.8 yds./ game (60 yds. rushing, 3,095 yds. passing, 3, 155 total vds.)

Receiving: Chris Bouyer, Pittsburgh, 3.6 rec./ game (39 rec., 640 yds., 4 TDs, 16.4 avg.). Scoring: John Biskup, Syracuse, 7.7 pts./game (OTDs, 34 PATs, 17 FGs, 85 pts.)

Putiling: Pat O'Neill, Syracuse, 42.0 avg. (45 punts, 1,899 yds.). Punt returns: Bo Campbell, Virginia Tech, 18.2

avg. (15 att., 273 yds., 0 TDs). Klekoff returns: Qadry Ismall, Syracuse, 25.0 avg. (19 att., 475 yds., 1 TD). Fleid goels: John Biskup, Syracuse, 1.6 FG/

game (17/22 FGs, 77%). Interceptions: Ryan McNell, Miami, 0.45 int./ game (5 int., 96 yds., 0 TDs).



Hunted Panther: Teams will keep their eyes on Pittsburgh's Chris Bouyer, the Big East's leading returning receiver.

McCartney feels Buffs' time to pass has come

By JIM THOMAS St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ill McCartney has come full circle. When Colorado hired him as its head coach in 1982. McCartnev brought a pass-happy offense with him to Boulder. The result: seven wins in his first three seasons.

In a desperation move to save his job. McCartney switched to the wishbone offense in 1985. Since that time, the wishbone has evolved into the power-I, and the power-I has evolved into a more balanced attack. The result: Colorado hasn't had a losing season in seven years. Its record over the last three years is 30-5-2, including a co-national championship in 1990.

McCartney, however, keeps tinkering with his offense. The Buffaloes unveiled a new one rather unsuccessfully in their 30-25 loss to Alabama in last year's Blockbuster Bowl: a passoriented, one-back/three-receiver alignment.

Is this man serious?

"I hope to shout we're serious," Mc-Cartney said, laughing. "It's full speed ahead. Whether it works or not, we're committed to it."

After running over people so successfully for seven years, why has Mc-Cartney decided to put "smash-ball" on the shelf?

"I just felt like as we go into the '90s that we needed to spread the field out and have more striking power," he said.

McCartney wants his team to move the ball better in big games (Colorado is 1-5 in bowl games during his tenure), and he believes it may take 25 to 30 passes to achieve that.

Traditionally run-oriented Oklahoma also figures to throw a lot with quarterback Cale Gundy. Do the changes at Colorado and Oklahoma mean the Big Eight Conference is grudgingly acknowledging, finally, that the forward pass exists?

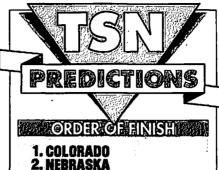
Well, maybe. Maybe not. While the Buffaloes are going to the air, former spread-the-field advocate Jim Walden is going the opposite direction at Iowa State. The Cyclones are going from a pro-style passing attack to the triple option. Go figure.

For the rest of the Big Eight, seeing "Air Buff" in Boulder will require quite an adjustment.

"It really is a change," Kansas Coach Glen Mason said. "Heck, we couldn't figure out how to stop that (old) offense."

COLORADO

Cossa: Bill McCartney (65-49-3, 10 years), 1991 (reserts: 8-3-1 (lost to Alabama in Block-buster Bowl): Big Eight: 6-0-1 /T1st Key losses: Sean Brown, TE; Darlan Hagan, OB; Eric Hamilton, S; Jim Harper, K; Mark Henry, WB; Jay



OKLAHOMA

KANSAS STATE

6. MISSOURI

7. IOWA STATE

8. OKLAHOMA STATE

Leeuwenburg, C; Rico Smith, WR; Joel Steed, NT; Greg Thomas, S.

Greg Thomas, S.
Starters returning: Offesse [6]: Craig Anderson, T.
6-4/280, Jr., Jim Hansen, T., 6-6/275, Sr.; James
Hill, FB, 6-0/210, Jr.; Roger Ivey, G, 6-3/275, Jr.;
Clint Modre, G, 6-4/285, Soph.; Lamont Warren,
TB, 6-0/185, Soph. Batesse [8]: Greg Blekert, LB,
6-3/230, Sr.; Ronnile Bradford; CB, 5-11/185, Sr.;
Chad Brown, LB, 6-3/230, Sr.; Marcellous Elder, T.
6-5/285, Sr.; Deon Figures, CB, 6-1/195, Sr.; Ted
Johnson, LB, 6-4/230, Soph.; Leonard Rentro, T.
6-4/270, Jr.; Ron Woolfork, LB, 6-3/235, Jr. Klekstrs [1]: Mitch Berger, P, 6-3/215, Jf.
Diker few returness: Pat Blottlany, K. Sr.; leff Brun-

crs [1]: Mitch Berger, P. 6-3/215, Jr.
Citar key reterases: Pat Blottlaux, K. Sr.; Jeff Brunner, N.T., Jr.; DeShannon Campbell, LB, Soph.;
Dwayne Davis, S., Jr. (RS): Brian Dyet, DT, Jr.;
Sean Embree, TE, Jr.; Rich Fisher, LB, Jr. (RS/
knee); Dartus Holland, DT, Soph.; Chris Hudson,
CB, Soph.; Dolyn Jackson, CS, Jr.; Charles Johnson, WR, Jr.; Vance Joseph, OB, Jr.; John Katovsich, LB, Jr. (RS/knee); Jon Knutson, LB,
Soph.; Erik Mitchell, WR, Soph.; Corey Smith, DT,
Soph.; Kordell Stewart, OB, Soph.



immovable Buffalo: Colorado defensive tackle Leonard Renfro will be tough to budge off the line.

Top cowcomers: T.J. Cunningham, WR, Fr. (RS); Koy Detmer, QB, Fr.; Garrett Ford, TE, Jr. (transfer/Arizona State); Maurice Henriques, QB, (transfer/Arizona-State); Maurice Henriques, DB, Fr.; Sam Rogers, LB, Jr. (JC); Rashaan Salaam, TB, Fr.; Dalton Simmons, DB, Fr.; Bryan Stoltenberg, C, Fr. (RS); Duke Toblen, OB, Jr. (transfer/illinois); Kenny Wilkins, S, Fr. Schedute: Colorado State, Sept. 5; at Baylor, Sept. 12; at Minnesota, Sept. 19; lowa, Sept. 26; at Missouri, Oct. 8; Oklahoma, Oct. 17; Kansas State, Oct. 24; at Nebraska, Oct. 31; Oklahoma State, Nov. 7; Cansas State, Oct. 24; at Nebraska, Oct. 31; Oklahoma State, Nov. 7; Cansas State, Oct. 24; at Nebraska, Oct. 31; Oklahoma State, Nov. 7; Cansas State, Oct. 20; Oklahoma State, Okla

24; at Nebraska, Oct. 31; Oklahoma State, Nov. 7; at Kansas, Nov. 14; Iowa State, Nov. 21.

Site: Boulder, Colo.

Outlook: The Buffaloes have won or shared the Big Eight title in each of the last three seasons and haven't lost a

conference game since 1988. They have a Top 20-caliber defense this season, but will their new one-back/threereceiver offense do the job?

Offensive strengths: Led by tackle Jim Hansen, last year's weakness-the offensive line-is this year's strength. Tailbacks Lamont Warren and highly touted recruit Rashaan Salaam will put some punch in the one-back set.

Offensive weaknesses: Three unproven players will vie to replace Darian Hagan, one of the Big Eight's best running quarterbacks ever. The receiving corps, too, is unproven, and there's questionable depth at running back.

Defensive strengths: They don't call them the Killer B's for nothing. Linebackers Chad Brown and Greg Biekert don't miss much. Add Ron Woolfork to the mix and you have the nation's best linebacking corps. Leonard Renfro, Marcellous (Earthquake) Elder and Jeff Brunner will be tough to budge off

Defensive weaknesses: Except for senior cornerback Deon Figures, the secondary is young and inexperienced.

Special teams: Mitch Berger is a talented punter who gets overshadowed in the Big Eight by Kansas' Dan Eichloff. Pat Blottiaux gets his chance at placekicker, a shaky position most of last

Key to success: Any kind of offensive production. The defense is good enough to carry this team a long way.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Buffaloes become living proof of the old Woody Hayes axiom that three things can happen when you pass, and two of them are

Coach Bill McCartney says: "Last year, we were just good enough to scratch out a co-championship. We were not a dominant team. But if we can get our offense untracked, I think we'll be a team you'll have to reckon with in the '90s.'

NEBRASKA

Cosch: Tom Osborne (186-43-3; 19 years). 1991 neard: 9-2-1 (lost to Mlami, Fla., in Orange Bowl). Big Eight: 6-0-1/T-1st. Key losses: Brian Bearboom, OT; Jon Bostick, SE;

Curtis Cotton, CB; Pat Engelbert, MG; Tyrone

Curtis Cotton, CB; Pat Engelbert, MG; Tyrone Legette, CB; Keithen McCant, QB; Mike Petko, LB; Nate Turner, WB; Erik Wiegert, QG.
Starters retarning: Offense (6): Derek Brown, RB, 5-9/180, Jr.; Lance Lewis, FB, 6-0/225, Sr.; Lance Lundberg, T, 6-4/305, Jr.; Jim Scott, C, 6-2/260, Jr.; Will Shields, G, 6-1/295, Sr.; William Washington, TE, 6-2/260, Sr. Defense (7): Mike Anderson, LB, 6-2/230, Jr.; Tyrone Byrd, S, 6-0/175, Sr.; Steve Garmer, S, 6-1/210, Sr.; Travis Hill, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; John Parrella, T, 6-5/290, Sr.; Kevin Ramaekers, T, 6-4/290, Jr.; David White, LB, 6-2/240, Sr. Kickers (2): Byron Bennett, K, 6-1/185, Jr.; Mike Stigge, P, 6-2/190, Sr.
Other key returness: Trev Alberts, LB, Jr.; Ernie Beler, S, Jr.; Troy Branch, LB, Jr.; Terris Chorney, C, Sr.; Carey Dixon, SE, Soph.; Tommle Frazier, QB, Fr.; Mike Grant, QB, Sr. (RS); Vincent Hawkins, WB, Sr.; Tyrone Hughes, CB/SE, Sr.; David Moonan, MG, Jr.; John Reece, CB/S, Jr.; T.J. Slansky, G, Sr.; Ed Stewart, LB, Soph.; David Leader, LB, Sr.; Calvin Jones, RB, Soph.; David Leader, LB, Sr.; Calvin Muhammad, WB, Soph.; David Noonan, MG, Jr.; John Reece, CB/S, Jr.; T.J. Slansky, G, Sr.; Ed Stewart, LB, Soph.; Carren Williams, LB, Jr.; Rob Zatechka, OT, Soph.; Chris Zyzda, G, Sr. Top sewcemers: Kareem Moss, CB, Soph. (JC); Toby Wright, S, Jr. (JC). Sebadule: Utah, Sept. 5; Middle Tennessee State,

Top sevenmers: kareem moss, CD, Supil. (30), Toby Wright, S, Jr. (30). Schridte: Utah, Sept. 5; Middle Tennessee State, Sept. 12; at Washington, Sept. 19; Arizona State, Sept. 26; Oklahoma State, Oct. 10; at Missouri, Oct. 24; Colorado, Oct. 31; Kansas, Nov. 7; at lowa State, Nov. 14; at Oklahoma, Nov. 27; Kansas State (1975). 1976 1. 1976 1.

(at Tokyo, Japan), Dec. 5. Nickomme: Cornhuskers. Site: Lincoln, Neb.

Outlook: This could be Tom Osborne's best Nebraska team in years. If the Huskers find an effective quarterback, they could win the Big Eight crown.

Offensive strengths: Osborne, one not given to hype, calls the tailback tandem of Derek Brown and Calvin Jones the best he's had since Mike Rozier and Roger Craig a decade ago. In terms of size, strength and athletic ability, the offensive line is among the best he's had, too.

Offensive weaknesses: Whether it's Mike Grant or someone else at quarterback, Nebraska needs to pass well enough to keep opposing defenses from keying too much on the running game.

Defensive strengths: The Cornhuskers think their linebacking corps of Travis Hill, Mike Anderson and David White is every bit as good as Colorado's. Their safeties aren't too bad, either.

Defensive weaknesses: There could be a problem at cornerback if Kenny Wilhite doesn't bounce back fully from a knee injury. The same holds true for the line if tackle Kevin Ramaekers (also a knee injury) is not ready.

Special teams: Tyrone Hughes is one of the best return men in the Big Eight. Mike Stigge returns for his fourth year as Nebraska's punter, but place-kicker Byron Bennett was just adequate last year.

Keys to success: Some semblance of a passing game, two reliable cornerbacks and a healthy defensive line.

Sure sign of trouble: If Grant gets hurt. He's the only quarterback on the roster with game experience.

Coach Tom Osborne says: "Our people here have accepted the fact that Colorado's arrived, but I don't think that most people realize how much better Kansas has gotten. And Kansas State last year was a good football team."

Coach: Gary Gibbs (24-10, 3 years). 1991 record: 9-3 (beat Virginia in Gator Bowl). Big Eight: 5-2/3rd

Big Eight: 5-2/3rd.

Key losses: Jason Belser, S; Joe Bowden, LB; Brian Brauninger, OT; Stacey Dillard, DT; Charles Franks, CB; Mike Gaddis, TB; Brandon Houston, OT; Proctor Land, DT; Corey Mayfield, NG; Terry Ray, S; Randy Wallace, C; Chris Wilson, LB.

Starters returalsg. Giffease (B): Cale Gundy, QB, 6-0/189, Jr.; Joey Mickey, TE, 6-5/269, Sr.; Paul Moriarty, G, 6-5/287, Sr.; Kenyon Rasheed, FB, 5-10/228, Sr.; Jeff Resler, G, 6-2/260, Soph.; Corey Warren, SE, 5-11/203, Jr. Brisse (3): Reggle Barnes, E, 6-1/218, Sr.; Trey Tippens, E, 6-3/235, Sr.; Darnell Walker, DB, 5-8/166, Sr. Kickers (2): Scott Blanton, K, 6-1/210, Soph.; Brad Reddell, P, 6-2/195, Sr. 6-2/195. Sr.

Other key returnees: Aubrey Beavers, LB, Jr.; Dewell

Brewer, RB, Sr.; Earnest Williams, TB, Jr.
Top sewcontrs: Dwayne Chandler, RB, Fr.; Michael
McDaniel, WR, Fr.; P.J. Mills, WR, Fr.; Mike

McDaniel, WH, Fr.; P.J. Mills, WH, Fr.; Mike Thompson, RB, Fr. Schedule: At Texas Tech, Sept. 3; Arkansas State, Sept. 12; Southern Callfornia, Sept. 19; Iowa State, Oct. 3; Texas (at Dallas), Oct. 10; at Colorado, Oct. 17; at Kansas, Oct. 24; Kansas State, Oct. 31; Mis-souri, Nov. 7; at Oklahoma State, Nov. 14; Ne-bracks, Nov. 27 braska, Nov. 27.

Hickmann: Sooners. Site: Norman, Okia.

Outlook: The Sooners' passing game is a couple of steps ahead of those at Colorado and Nebraska, but Oklahoma's talent level is a couple of steps behind

Continued



- 24+ PAGES PER ISSUE
- * WEEKLY DURING FOOTBALL SEASON
- * EXTENSIVE RECRUITING INFORMATION
- * ALL C U SPORTS COVERAGE
- * PRE/POST GAMÉ COVERAGE
- **BIG 8 & NATIONAL** STAT LEADERS
- COACH MAC'S POST GAME COMMENTS
- FEATURES ON PAST & PRESENT CU PLAYERS

/ISA & MASTER CARD Customers call:



1-800-GET BUFF





YES! I would like to receive a full year subscription (25 issues) to THE BUFFALO SPORTS NEWS.

☐ Enclose	ed is	my	check	or	money	order	for	\$34.95	į
			¬ Plea:	se t	oill me.				

Name:	_	•		
Address:			 	•
City/State/Zip:				_
Phone Number:				_

Mail to: THE BUFFALO, 1085 14th St., Suite 1257, Boulder CO 80302

76



reseason all-big eight team

WRIAMERS OF THE MEAR

OFFENSE



Derek Brown, RB, Nebraska

DEFENSE



Chad Brown, LB, Colorado

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Derek Chapman, QB, Oklahoma State DEFENSE: Earl Brooks, LB, Missouri

FIRSTITEAM **OFFENSE**

P61.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	VICTOR BAILEY, Missouri	6-4/200	Sr.
WR	BERT MILLINER, Oklahoma State	5-6/150	Sr.
TE	JOEY MICKEY, Oklahoma	6-5/269	Sr.
T	JIM HANSEN, Colorado	6-6/275	Sr.
τ	KEITH LONEKER, Kansas	6-3/305	Sr.
C	QUENTIN NEUJAHR, Kansas State	6-4/270	Jr.
G	PAUL MORIARTY, Oklahoma	6-5/287	Sr.
G	WILL SHIELDS, Nebraska	6-1/295	Sr.
QB	CALE GUNDY, Oklahoma	6-0/189	Jr.
RB	DEREK BROWN, Nebraska	5-9/180	Jr.
RB	CALVIN JONES, Nebraska	5-11/205	Soph

DEFENSE

Pos.	Mame, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	REGGIE BARNES, Oklahoma	6-1/218	Sr.
DL	JASON GILDON, Oklahoma State	6-4/220	Jr.
DL	LEONARD RENFRO, Colorado	6-4/270	Jr.
DL	DANA STUBBLEFIELD, Kansas	6-3/280	Sr.
LB	GREG BIEKERT, Colorado	6-3/230	Sr.
LB	CHAD BROWN, Colorado	6-3/230	Sr.
ĹB	TRAVIS HILL, Nebraska	6-2/235	Sr.
DB	TYRONE BYRD, Nebraska	6-0/175	Sr.
DB	MARK DouBRAVA, lowa State	6-0/192	Sr.
DB	DEON FIGURES, Colorado	6-1/195	Sr.
DB	DARNELL WALKER, Oklahoma	5-8/166	Sr.
	CDECIALICTO		

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
PK	DAN EICHLOFF, Kansas	6-0/215	J۲.
P	DAN EICHLOFF, Kansas	6-0/215	Jr.

SECONDITE/AVM **OFFENSE**

	U.1.1.1		
Pos.	Hame, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	BYRON CHAMBERLAIN, Missouri	6-2/236	Jr.
WR	COREY WARREN, Oklahoma	5-11/203	Jr.
TE	WILLIAM WASHINGTON, Nebraska	6-2/260	Sr.
Т	LANCE LUNDBERG, Nebraska	6-4/305	Jr.
Т	DOUG SKARTVEDT, lowa State	6-3/308	Jr.
C	SCOTT ARMBRUST, Iowa State	6-2/275	Sr.
G	MIKE BEDOSKY, Missouri	6-5/288	Jr.
G	JEFF RESLER, Oklahoma	6-2/260	Soph.
QB	PHIL JOHNSON, Missouri	6-5/205	Jr.
RB	KENYON RASHEED, Oklahoma	5-10/228	Sr.
RB	LAMONT WARREN, Colorado	6-0/185	Soph.

DEFENSE

PLI LINGE				
Pos.	Hame, School	Ht./Wt.	Class	
DL	GILBERT BROWN, Kansas	6-2/305	Sr.	
DL	JODY KILIAN, Kansas State	6-5/275	Sr.	
DL	DAVID NOONAN, Nebraska	6-3/275	jr.	
LB	BROCKS BARTA, Kansas State	6-0/215	Sr.	
LB	STEVE HARVEY, Kansas	6-3/230	Soph.	
LB	DAVID WHITE, Nebraska	6-2/240	Sr.	
LB	RON WOOLFORK, Colorado	6-3/235	Jr.	
DB	MAURICE BENSON, Missouri	6-0/197	Sr.	
DB	STEVE CARMER, Nebraska	6-1/210	Sr.	
DB	KEVIN FULTON, Iowa State	6-1/180	Soph.	
OB	JAIME MENDEZ, Kansas State	6-0/195	Jr.	

SPECIALISTS

HL/W1. 6-0/190 6-3/215	
	3-0/190

those two as well. The Sooners have enough talent at the skill positions to challenge for the Big Eight title, but enough questions exist just about everywhere else to keep them from winning it.

Offensive strengths: Cale Gundy threw for 329 yards and two TDs in Oklahoma's Gator Bowl romp over Virginia, but can he pick up where he left off? Coach Gary Gibbs thinks he can. Kenyon Rasheed, Dewell Brewer and Earnest Williams carry on the tradition of fine Sooner running backs.

Offensive weaknesses: Paul Moriarty and Jeff Resler are a solid tandem at guard, but the rest of the linemen are unproven.

Defensive strengths: Reggie Barnes, Trey Tippens and Aubrey Beavers will wreak havoc at the end/outside linebacker spots. They'll have to, because the linebacking and secondary are suspect.

Defensive weaknesses: Six defensive starters were taken in last spring's National Football League draft. Among the returnees, there appear to be few Sooners who can Boom.

Special teams: Punter Brad Reddell is solid. Scott Blanton, however, needs to improve on his four-for-12 field-goal kicking of a year ago.

Keys to success: Finding some big offensive linemen, a couple of starters in the secondary and a linebacker or two. Sure sign of trouble: Myriad injuries. Scholarship limitations imposed during a now-concluded NCAA probation have

made this a thin team across the board. The Sooners lost 23 seniors from last year's squad.

Coach Gary Gibbs says: "When we went on probation in '89, it was fairly easy to look at the '92 campaign and say that was going to be the year where it affected the program the most."



Stormy forecast: Oklahoma is counting on defensive end Reggie Barnes to wreak havoc on the opposition.

KANSAS

Coach: Glen Mason (14-29-1, 4 years; 26-39-1 overall, 6 years).

1991 recert: 6-5, Big Eight: 3-4/5th.

Key lesses: Paul Friday, S; Tim Hill, CB; Scott Imwalle, OG; Jim New, WR; Chris Perez, OT; Roger

Robben, FB; Tony Sands, RB; Doug Terry, S. Hobben, Fe; Tony Sands, RB; Udug Terry, S.
Starters ettrelleg: Offesse [6]: Dwayne Chandler,
TE, 6-2/230, Jr.; Matt Gay, WR, 5-11/185, Sr.;
Hessley Hempstead, G, 6-1/285, Soph.; Chip Hileary, UB, 6-1/185, Sr.; Keith Loneker, T, 6-3/305,
Sr.; Dan Schmidt, C, 6-1/265, Jr.; Befesse [8]: Hassan Balley, LB, 6-0/200, Sr.; Gilbert Brown, T, 62/305, Sr.; Brian Christian, E, 6-3/280, Jr.; Don Davis, LB, 6-1/205, Soph.; Steve Harvey, LB, 6-3/ 230, Scph.; Kyle Moore, E, 6-3/255, Sr.; Dana Stubblefield, T, 6-3/280, Sr.; Robert Vaughn, CB, 6-0/190, Jr. Kickers (1): Dan Elchloff, K/P, 6-0/

Other key returness: Khristopher Booth, OT, Soph.; Monte Cozzens, FB, Sr.; Maurice Douglas, RB, Sr.

Monte Cozzens, FB, Sr.; Maurice Douglas, RB, Sr. (RS); Chad Fette, TE, Jr. (RS/knee); Guy Howard, DE, Jr.; Chaka Johnson, RB, Sr.; Rob Licursl, WR, Sr. (RS/collarbone); Chris Maumalanga, DT, Jr.; Ty Moeder, DE, Jr.; George White, RB, Jr. Top aswecmers: Mark Allison, DT, Fr. (RS); Marlin Blakeney, CB, Fr. (RS); Rod Jones, DE, Fr. (RS); Kwamie Lassiter, DB, Jr. (JC); Jim Moore, TE, Fr.; Mike Steele, DT, Jr. (transfer/Georgia); Ronnie Ward, LB, Fr. Sebydole &t Oregon State, Sept. 5: Rall State, Sept.

Nov. 7; Colorado, Nov. 14; at Missouri, Nov. 21. Mickeamo: Jayhawks.

Site: Lawrence, Kan.

Outlook: This could be the year an outsider cracks the league's traditional Big Three of Colorado, Nebraska and Oklahoma. If so, it'll be the Jayhawks. They have an experienced quarterback in Chip Hilleary and a defense that can go toe to toe with just about anybody in the Big Eight.

Offensive strengths: Hilleary has started 21 of Kansas' last 22 games and is coming off an excellent spring.

Offensive weaknesses: The Jayhawks lack a game-breaker. And the tailbackby-committee of Maurice Douglas, Chaka Johnson and George White will be hard pressed to match the production of the departed "Tuxedo" Tony Sands, who led the league with 1,442 yards rushing last fall.

Defensive strengths: The front seven is one of the best in the league. Dana Stubblefield might be the conference's best lineman, and fellow tackle Gilbert Brown is not far behind. Steve Harvey leads a deep, but inexperienced, linebacking corps.

Defensive weaknesses: Three new starters must be found for the secondary. Team speed on defense also is a

Special teams: Dan Eichloff arguably is the nation's best punter/place-kicker. And it's a strong argument. Eichloff connected on 18 of 24 field-goal attempts last season and finished 12th nationally with a 42.4-yard punting average. Matt Gay is a solid punt returner.

Key to success: Developing a running game.

Sure signs of trouble: If the offense doesn't move the chains and the defense doesn't leave the field.

Coach Glen Mason says: "This is the first time since I've been at the University of Kansas that we have a full complement of players, and the first time that I'm not really expecting a large number of freshmen to have to contribute."

KANSAS STATE

Couch: Bill Snyder (13-20, 3 years). 1991 resort: 7-4. Big Eight: 4-3/4th. Key losses: Elijah Alexander, DE; Joe Boone, LB;

Russ Campbell, TE; Rogerick Green, CB; Doug Grush, OT; Frank Hernandez, WR; Curtis Madden, FB; William Price, CB; Michael Smith, WR; Paul Watson, QB.

Starters returning: Offense (5): Eric Gallon, RB, 6-1/ 205, Sr. (status uncertain/knee); Toby Lawrence, G, 6-5/280, Sr.; Quentin Neujahr, C, 6-4/270, Jr.; G, 6-5/280, Sr.; Quenun Neujanr, G, 6-4/2/0, Jr.; Mike Orr, T, 6-7/270, Sr.; Eric. Welford, G, 6-3/260, Jr. Dafasse [8]: Brooks Barta, LB, 6-0/215, Sr.; Reggie Blackwell, E, 6-2/205, Sr.; Kelly Greene, T, 6-3/275, Soph.; Ekwensi Griffith, T, 6-0/265, Sr.; Jody Killan, T, 6-5/275, Sr.; C.J. Masters, S, 6-1/200, Sr.; Jaime Mendez, S, 6-0/195, Jr.; Chris Patterson, LB, 6-3/235, Sr. Kiekers [2]: Sean Snyder, P, 6-2/175, Jr.; Tate Wright, K, 5-11/175, Jr.

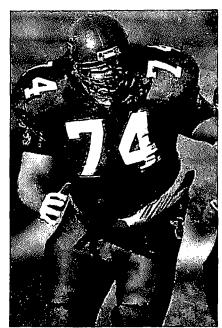
Other key returnses: Gerald Benton, WR, Sr.; Barrett Brooks, OT, Soph.; Andre Coleman, WR, Jr.; Matt Garber, QB, Sr.; Thomas Randolph, CB, Jr.; Rod Schiller, FB, Soph. (RS/ankle); Jason Smarglasso, QB, Jr.; J.J. Smith, RB, Soph.; Brent Venables, LB,

Sr., Tony Williams, DT, Sr.

Top newcomers: Leon Edwards, RB, Fr.; Jim Hinlelewski, OT, Soph. (RS/Knee); Kevin Lockett, WR, Fr.; Jeff Simoneau, DT, Sr. (transfer/Arizona State); Will Skeans, CB, Fr.; Henry Smalls, WR, Fr.; Andrew Timmons, LB, Fr.; Curt Turner, TE, Fr. Schedele: Montana, Sept. 19; Templé, Sept. 26; New Mexico State, Oct. 3; at Kansas, Oct. 10; at Utah

State, Oct. 17; at Colorado, Oct. 24; at Oklahoma, Oct. 31; Iowa State, Nov. 5; at Missouri, Nov. 14; Oldahoma State, Nov. 21; Nebraska (at Tokyo, Japan), Dec. 5.

Niekrama: Wildcats. 8lts: Manhattan, Kan.



Big escort: Tackle Keith Loneker will lead the way for the Jayhawks' running backs this season.

Outlook: Like their cross-state rivals in Lawrence, the Manhattan-based Wildcats have shed their laughingstock label. In a short time, Bill Snyder has done a remarkable job of getting his players to perform with a sense of pride and purpose.

Offensive strengths: The line is solid, with experienced players returning at every position. The best of the bunch is junior center Quentin Neujahr, an All-America candidate.

Offensive weaknesses: It's a good thing the line is experienced because the skill-position players won't be. The Wildcats have a tough chore in replacing wide receivers Michael Smith and Frank Hernandez and tight end Russ Campbell, who last year formed the only trio of teammates in Big Eight history to tally 1,000 yards apiece in career receiving. Eric Gallon (1,102 yards rushing in 1991) is questionable because of a knee injury suffered during spring drills.

Defensive strengths: The gang's all here, namely eight returning starters. Tackle Jody Kilian and linebacker Brooks Barta are the top players on a solid front seven.

Defensive weaknesses: Is there a cornerback (or two) in the house? It could be a long year if opposing quarterbacks have time to throw.

Special teams: Tate Wright was eightfor-15 on field goals last season. The coach's son, Sean Snyder, handles the punting.

Key to success: Either Jason Smargiasso or Matt Garber must fill the shoes of departed quarterback Paul Watson.

Sure sign of trouble: If Gallon can't play and either J.J. Smith or Leon Edwards doesn't do the job in his place.

Coach Bill Snyder says: "We'd just like to get our program to a period of consistency, which to me means that you can get in that five-, six-, seven-, eight-win category year in and year out.'

MISSOURI

Coach: Bob Stull (9-23-1, 3 years: 40-50-1

overall, 8 years). 1991 resert: 3-7-1. Big Eight: 1-8/7th. Key losses: Brad Funk, C; Mario Johnson, DT; Skip Leach, WR; Russ McCullough, OT; Mark Plunkett,

Leach, WR; Russ McCullough, OT; Mark Plunkett, P; Tom Reiner, LB; Brad Scrivner, S; Sharron Washington, S; Don Wright, OG. Starters returalsg: Officese (7): Victor Bailey, WR, 6-4/200, Sr.; Mike Bedosky, G, 6-5/288, Jr.; Byron Chamberlain, WR, 6-2/236, Jr.; Doug Hembrough, C, 6-1/270, Sr.; Kenny Holly, WR, 6-0/183, Jr.; Phil Johnson, OB, 6-5/205, Jr.; Ronnell Kayhill, TB, 5-9/203, Sr. Betose (6): Maurice Benson, S; 6-0/197, Sr.; Stacy Elliott, E, 6-4/257; Sr.; George Hunt, T, 6-3/270, Jr.; Rick Lyle, T, 6-6/270, Jr.; Darryl Major, LB, 6-2/238, Soph.; Jason Oliver, CB, 5-11/170, Jr. Rickers (1): Jeff Jacke, K, 6-0/190, Sr.

CB, 5-11/170, Jr. Klekerk [1]: Jeff Jacke, K, 6-0/190, Sr.

Other by reterises: Tim Alvarado, OT, Jr.; Coby Crowl, OT, Sr.; Joe Freeman, TB, Soph.; Jeff Handy, OB, Soph.; Travis. McDonald, LB, Soph.; McMandintosh, CB, Soph.; AJ. Ofodile, TE, Soph.; Marc Pedrotti, DE, Soph.; Bob Petrus; OG, Sr.; Mike Ringgenberg, LB, Sr.; Mike Schlef, FB, Sr.; Gene Snisky, OT, Sr.; Michael, Washington, RB, Jr.; Andre White, S, Soph.; Jermaine Wilkins, LB, Sr. Tog. neveromers: Bo Adams, S, Fr. (RS); Reagan Allen, OT, Fr. (RS); Earl Brooks, LB, Jr. (JC); Vic Faust, DE, Fr. (RS); Avery Griggs, LB, Fr. (RS); Mark Jackson, TB, Soph. (missed '91/disciplinary); Antwan Johnson; FB, Fr. (RS); Frank Jones, WR, Fr. (RS); Ryan Lyons, TB, Soph. (RS/knee); Todd Moss, TE, Jr. (JC); Damon Simon, DT, Jr. (JC); Scott Villarreal; P, Jr. (JC); Chris Walls; DE, Fr. (RS); Jerry Wooden, CB, Jr. (JG)

Sekatale: At Jillnois, Sept. 12; Texas A&M, Sept. 19; at Indiana, Sept. 26; Marshall, Oct. 3; Colorado, Oct. 8; at Oklahoma State, Oct. 17; Nebraska, Oct. 24; at Iowa State, Oct. 31; at Oklahoma, Nov. 7; Kansas State, Nov. 14; Kansas, Nov. 21: Michaume Tigers.

Hicknesse Tigers. 8ite: Columbia, Mo.

Outlook: In recent years, most Big Eight teams have watered down their non-conference schedules. The Tigers haven't-and they've paid the price. Last season, they played six teams that wound up in bowl games and were ground to bits by midseason. This year, there are six '91 bowl teams on the slate, and it's hard to project many Tiger victories because of it.

Offensive strengths: The Tigers have a good group of skill-position players in quarterback Phil Johnson and receivers Victor Bailey and Byron Chamberlain. All three, however, must bounce back from nagging injuries that plagued them last season.

Offensive weaknesses: The running game may be non-existent unless Mark Jackson (suspended last year) and Michael Washington (who must regain his academic eligibility) can overcome

their off-field problems.

Defensive strengths: The Tigers' biggest defensive asset is new coordinator Don Lindsey, who has proven his abilities at Southern California, Alabama, Arkansas and Georgia Tech. After all, when you finish 105th out of 106 Division I-A teams in total defense, your strength can't be players.

Defensive weaknesses: Everywhere. The Tigers were plundered for an average of 37 points per game in 1991 and

Continued

77

run as though their feet are stuck in quicksand.

Special teams: Senior Jeff Jacke has been a steady place-kicker throughout his career. Missouri's kick-return units, however, were among the Big Eight's worst.

Keys to success: Staying healthy, developing a running game and making vast improvement on defense.

Sure sign of trouble: Cleat marks on the backs of Tiger defenders.

Coach Bob Stull says: "People have a hard time remembering this: When we first started last year, half the people had us going to the Orange Bowl after we beat Illinois."

IOWA STATE

Cosch: Jim Walden (21-22-2,5 years; 65-84-6 overall, 14 years).
1891 record; 3-7-1. Big Eight: 1-5-1/6th.
Key losses: Travis Block, DT; Mark Dunn, DE; Matt Grubb, DT; Sundlata Patterson, FB; Larry Ratigan, LB; Matt Rehberg, DE; Paul Schulte, TE.

LB; Matt Rehberg, DE; Paul Schulte, TE.
Starters returning: Offices (9): Scott Armbrust, C, 62/275, Sr.; Tony Booth, G, 6-3/275, Scph.; Kevin
Caldwell, QB, 6-2/180, Soph.; Lamont Hill; FL, 59/172, Jr.; Jim: Knott, TB, 6-0/203, Soph.; Todd
McClish, T, 6-5/319, Sr.; Lawrence Roberts, G, 65/268, Jr.; Doug Skartvedt, T, 6-3/308, Jr.; ChrisSpencer, WR, 6-4/202, Sr.; Mark Doubrava, S, 6-0/
192, Sr.; Kevin Fulton, S, 6-1/180, Soph.; Dan Milner, LB, 6-1/232, Sr.; Mark Nitchie, LB, 6-2/206,
Jr.; Shawn Walker, CB, 5-11/167, Sr.; Dan Watkins, LB, 6-2/225, Sr. Kiekers (2): Jon Schnoor, P.
6-0/169, Sr.; Ty Stewart, K, 5: 11/172, Soph.
Other: key returness; George Conditt; DE, Jr. (RS/ Other toy returness: George Conditt; DE, Jr. (RS/ arm); Kevin Lazard, CB, Jr.; James McMillon, FL, Jr.; Todd Miller, DT, Sr. (RS/knee); Blaise Roberts, RB, Soph. (RS/shoulder); Bob Utter; QB, Soph. (RS/shoulder); Husseln Warmack, TE, Jr. (RS/

knee). Top newcomers: Ryan Culver, OL, Fr.: Troy Hansen,

OL, Jr. (JC); Donnie Smith, OB, Jr. (JC). Schedule: Ohio University, Sept. 5, at lowa, Sept. 12; Tulane, Sept. 19; Northern Iowa; Sept. 28; at Oklahoma, Oct. 3; Kansas, Oct. 17; at Oklahoma State, Oct. 24; Missouri, Oct. 31; at Kansas State, Nov. 5; Nebraska, Nov. 14; at Colorado, Nov. 21.

Kickname: Cyclones. Site: Ames, la.

Outlook: The excitable Jim Walden is excited about his defense. But his switch to an option offense marks a radical change in philosophy. If the Cyclones can win non-conference games at home against Ohio University, Tulane and Northern Iowa, however, they might have a respectable season.

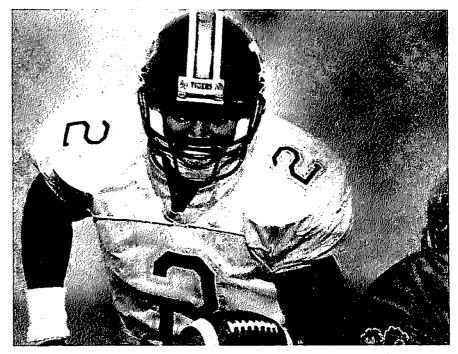
Offensive strengths: All five starting linemen and the top two receivers are back.

Offensive weaknesses: Don't you need running backs to run the option? The Cyclones' leading returning rusher is quarterback Kevin Caldwell, who had a modest 428 yards last season.

Defensive strengths: The Big Eight's best secondary resides in Ames. Safeties Mark DouBrava and Kevin Fulton and cornerbacks Shawn Walker, Kevin Lazard and Andrew Buggs would start at a lot of schools.

Defensive weaknesses: In contrast to the offensive line, the defensive line was virtually wiped out by losses. Four starters who combined to earn 14 letters must be replaced.

Special teams: James McMillion fin-



Scratching back: Victor Bailey, who is part of an outstanding Missouri receiving corps, must rebound from nagging injuries that plagued him last season.

ished fifth in the nation in punt returns last season. Ty Stewart (12-for-17 fieldgoal kicking last season) is one of the league's better place-kickers.

Key to success: Capitalizing on a very manageable non-conference schedule.

Sure sign of trouble: If the running game is as ineffective at the beginning of this season as it was at the end of the last one.

Coach Jim Walden says: "Everybody gives me the reputation of being a passer. I just did that to kill time."

OKLAHOMA STATE

Cosch: Pat Jones (52-39-1, 8 years).
1991 recard: 0-10-1. Big Eight: 0-6-1/6th.
Key losses: Brian Bobo, OG; Mike Clark, CB; Brandon Colbert, DT; Kenny Ford, QB; Robert Kirksey, EL; Stacey Satterwhite, DT; Pete Surette, C.
Starters retemleg: Offesse (7): Mike Butler, T, 6-2/278, Jr.; Scott Copeland, TE, 5-3/245, Sr.; Rafael Denson, TB, 5-8/175, Soph.; Roger Franks, FB, 6-0/242, Jr.; Anthony Greenlee, G, 6-1/305, Jr.; Matt Jose, C, 6-4/290, Sr.; Bert Milliner, SE, 5-6/150, Jose, C, 6-4/29, Sr.; Bert Milliter, SE, 5-6/190, Jr. Befesse (8): Cornell Cannon, S, 6-1/200, Sr.; Arthur Davis, LB, 5-11/232, Sr.; Chaucer Funchess, LB, 6-3/220, Sr.; Jason Gildon, E, 6-4/220, Jr.; Scott Harmon, S, 5-8/190, Jr.; Andre Thompson, T, 6-4/250, Sr.; Tharon Tircult, CB, 5-10/180, Soph.; Mike Woolridge, E, 6-3/225, Sr. Kiekers (13): Blok Harre K 5-9/195, Soph (1): Rick Myers, K, 5-9/185, Soph

Other key returness: Jason Bufford, LB, Soph.; Mark Cheatwood, FL, Soph.; Carlos Erving, LB (moved from DB), Sr.; Todd Fisher, CB, Sr.; Jay Fleischman, DB, Sr. (RS/medical); Wendell Gaines, DT, Jr.; Derek Jones, TE, Soph. (RS/medical); Steve Keith, TE, Jr.; Dmitri Markham, DB (moved from

WR), Soph., WH), Sopn..
Top asweemers: Keith Burns, LB, Jr. (JC); Derek Chapman, QB, Jr. (JC); Brian Hamilton, LB, Jr. (JC); Andy Loveland, QB, Jr. (JC); Alan Orts, QL, Jr. (JC); Matt Parker, DT, Fr. (RS); Fred Thomas, SE, Fr. (RS); Scott Tyner, P, Jr. (JC).
Schodie: Indiana State, Sept. 5; at Michigan, Sept.

19; Tulsa, Sept. 26; at Texas Christian, Oct. 3; at Nebraska, Oct. 10; Missouri, Oct. 17; Iowa State, Oct. 24; at Kansas, Oct. 31; at Colorado, Nov. 7; Oklahoma, Nov. 14; at Kansas State, Nov. 21. **Nickname: Cowboy** Site: Stillwater, Okla.

three seasons after finishing 10-2 with a Heisman Trophy winner (Barry Sanders) in their backfield and a No. 1 NFL draft pick (Hart Lee Dykes) at wide receiver, the Cowboys finished a disastrous 0-10-1 in 1991. The future does not look bright. Offensive strengths: Very few, although

Outlook: Nobody except Southern Meth-

odist has been hit as hard by NCAA pro-

bation as Oklahoma State has. Just

Bert Milliner is a good possession receiver and Rafael Denson shows some promise at tailback.

Offensive weaknesses: The big question mark is quarterback. Namely, who will it be? There also isn't a game-breaker in the bunch at receiver or running back.

Defensive strengths: There is quantity and some quality at linebacker. End Jason Gildon holds the school record for sacks.

Defensive weaknesses: The Cowboys have a smallish front seven, lack experience on the line and are in need of two starting cornerbacks.

Special teams: Punter Scott Tyner, a junior college transfer, was a big hit in spring practice. Place-kicker Rick Myers is coming off a respectable freshman season.

Key to success: Improving on last year's paltry offensive production of 9.6 points per game.

Sure sign of trouble: If neither Derek Chapman nor Andy Loveland is the answer at quarterback.

Coach Pat Jones says: "When that final gun went off (in '91), it became real ancient history with me. But that stuff's not easy. You go from 10 wins and a Heisman Trophy winner to 10 losses in a three-year period of time, that's not easy."

COUNTRALIE : ICE CO. II

Ascending: Kansas and Kansas State. For the first time in 58 years, both schools finished with a winning record in the same season last year. It could happen again. Both programs had hit rock bottom in the mid- to late

Bost offensive line:

Bast offensive backfeld:

Bost backup quarterback:

Best wide receivers:

Best cluich receiver:

Best defensive line:

Victor Balley, Missouri

Steve Collins, Oklahoma

Nebraska

Nebraska

Missouri

Colorado

1980s before young, enthusiastic coaches Glen Mason (Kansas) and Bill Snyder (Kansas State) turned things around.

Descending: Missouri. Caught in a web of mediocre facilities, declining attendance and a failure to retain instate talent, the once-proud Tigers haven't had a win-

ning season since 1983. Even worse. they've won as many as five games only once in the last eight years.

Nightmare schedule: Again, Missouri. The Tigers must play five 1991 bowl teams (Illinois, Texas A&M, Indiana, Colorado and Nebraska) in their first seven games. Good luck, guys.

Dream schedule: Kansas State. The Wildcats have Montana, Temple, New Mexico State and Utah State on this year's slate. Of course, a few seasons back, they lost to teams like that.

Best matchup of the year: Colorado at Nebraska on October 31. This has developed into the Big Eight's most heated rivalry in recent years. The once-dominant Cornhuskers have won just two of their last six games against the Buffaloes.

Worst matchup of the year: Middle Tennessee State at Nebraska on September 12. Really, Huskers, wasn't there anyone else to play?

Shocker of the year: Kansas over Oklahoma on October 24 in Lawrence. The Sooners will be flat after back-toback tussles with Texas and Colorado. Bowl bound: As usual, the Big Three of Colorado, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Count on Kansas to make it four.

Biggest shoes to fill: Colorado quarterback Darian Hagan's. He was a clutch player who helped elevate the Buffaloes into the nation's elite. Vance Joseph, Kordell Stewart or Duke Tobin will be his successor.

Most underrated player: Ron Woolfork, LB, Colorado. He plays in the shadow of Killer B teammates Chad Brown and Greg Bickert, but he has loads of potential.

Impact newcomers: Derek Chapman, QB, Oklahoma State, Jr. (JC); Leon Edwards, RB, Kansas State, Soph. (transfer/Grambling State); Shane Hudson, OT, Oklahoma State, Sr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Mark Jackson, RB, Missouri, Soph. (was suspended in '91); Rashann Salaam,

RB, Colorado, Fr.; Jeff Simoneau, NG, Kansas State, Sr. (transfer/Arizona State); Scott Tyner, P, Oklahoma State, Jr. (JC); Scott Villarreal, P, Missouri, Jr. (JC).

HONOR ROLL

Best-hitting defensive linemen: Leonard Renfro, Colorado Best linebackers: Colorado

Best-hitting linebacker: Ron Woolfork, Colorado Best secondary:

lowa State Best-Altting defensive back: Dean Figures, Colorado

Best kicking game: Kansas

Coach of the year: Glen Mason, Kansas. His Jayhawks will finish in the Big Eight's upper division for the first time since 1984 and go to a bowl for the first time since 1981.

Coach on the hot seat: Bob Stull, Mis-

souri. The honevmoon is over for Stull, whose threevear record of 9-23-1 is only, slightly better than the record compiled in the first three seasons of his predecessor. Woody Widenhofer (9-24).

Best bets: Barring injury, Nebraska's Derek Brown and Calvin Jones will each rush for 1,000

yards. . . . Cale Gundy will set the single-season record for most passing yards at Oklahoma. . . . Oklahoma State's Jason Gildon will finish the season with a double-figure sack total. . . . Nebraska will win the national rushing title for the fourth time in five years.

Odds and ends: The 1991 season marked the first time in 21 years that at least one Big Eight team did not finish in the Top 10 in the final Associated Press poll. Nebraska was 15th. For the second straight year, Oklahoma State Coach Pat Jones spent National Football League draft day in the "war room" of the Dallas Cowboys. He is a good friend of Dallas' Jimmy Johnson, who coached Oklahoma State from 1979 through '83 before moving on to Miami (Fla.) and then the Cowboys. . . . Oklahoma State softened its non-conference schedule by dropping Miami (Fla.) and Baylor and adding Indiana State. The Cowboys still must go to Michigan, however. . . . For only the third time in league history, every Big Eight team had at least 1,000 yards passing and 1,000 yards rushing last season. ... The same eight head coaches are heading into their fourth consecutive season together in 1992, marking the longest stretch without a head coaching change in league history. . . . Colorado quarterback Duke Tobin, a transfer from Illinois, is the son of Chicago Bears personnel director Bill Tobin and nephew of Bears defensive guru Vince Tobin. . . . Big Eight teams will be featured in four games to be televised by ESPN on Thursday nights this year: Oklahoma at Texas Tech on September 3, California at Kansas on September 24, Colorado at Missouri (a return to the site of the 1990 "fifth-down game") on

State on November 5. —JIM THOMAS

October 8 and Iowa State at Kansas

Bost kick-coverage units: Nebraska Best cosching staff: Nehraska Bast couch:

Bill McCartney, Colorado Bast Heisman candidata: Derek Brown, RB, Nebraska

Beat pre prospect: Chad Brown, LB, Colorado

RETURNING LEADERS

Rushing: Derek Brown, Nebraska, 119.4 yds./ game (230 att., 1,313 yds., 14 TDs, 5.7 avg.). Passing efficiency: Cale Gundy, Oklahoma, 120.1 rating pts. (172 att., 91 comp., 1,228 yds., 8 TDs\

Total offense: Phil Johnson, Missouri, 198.8 yds./game (158 yds. rushing, 2,029 yds.

passing, 2, 187 total yds.). Hereiving: Bert Milliner, Oklahoma State, 4.3 rec./game (47 rec., 631 yds., 3 TDs, 13.4

avg.). Secriag: Calvin Jones, Nebraska, 8.4 pts./ game (14 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 84 pts.). Punting: Dan Elchloff, Kansas, 43.1 avg. (53

punts, 2,286 yds.). Punt raturna: James McMillion, Iowa State, 14.8 avg. (17 att., 251 yds., 0 TDs).

Kickelf returns: Tyrone Hughes, Nebraska, 21.1 avg. (16 att., 338 yds., 0 TDs). Field geals: Dan Eichloff, Kansas, 1.6 FG/game (18/24 FGs, 75%)

Interceptions: Scott Harmon, Oklahoma State, 0.55 int./game (6 int., 90 yds., 0 TDs).



On the run: Nebraska's Derek Brown, the Big Eight's top returning rusher, will be a marked man in 1992.

Big Ten is bowled over by lack of postseason wins

By BRUCE HOOLEY Cleveland Plain Dealer

f Miss Manners authored a book on Big Ten football etiquette, early in the first chapter she would warn readers about a taboo topic that shouldn't be mentioned at cocktail parties around the conference.

Any mention of the Big Ten's failure to win a national championship since 1968 is a sure-fire way to have some edgy coach or league official toss his drink onto your lapel.

Twelve men have walked on the moon since Woody Hayes led Ohio State to the top of the final national polls. Over that stretch, schools from the Southwest, Big Eight, Pacific-10, Southeastern, Atlantic Coast and Western Athletic conferences have each won at least one national championship, as have four different independents. The Big Ten? Zip.

Part of the problem has been a weak record in the postseason, where national titles are cemented. Only twice in the last 10 years has the Big Ten won more bowl games than it lost in a single postseason. The conference is 20-29-1 in the postseason during that span, and that mark can't be blamed entirely on a miserable 2-8 record in Rose Bowls. Not counting those 10 Rose Bowl games, the Big Ten is still below .500 (18-21-1) in bowl competition in the past decade.

National championships don't come with wins in the Copper, Gator, John Hancock, Aloha or Florida Citrus bowls, but those are the only postseason trophies Big Ten teams have brought home the last three seasons.

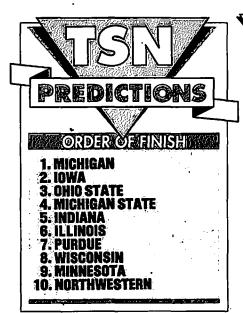
"I don't think too many people have lost respect for the Big Ten," Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany said. "The problem is, we beat each other up with our depth and quality. Because of that depth and quality, we don't put up the kinds of records that put us in that position (to win a national title)."

The Orange, Flesta, Sugar and Cotton bowls didn't buy that logic when putting together their national championship consortium. They left the Big Ten runner-up out of their mix.

That decision inspired Delany to make a deal that will place the Big Ten's second-place team in the Citrus Bowl and its third-place team in the Holiday Bowl for the next three seasons.

The Big Ten's official position on that deal is that its teams will lend legitimacy to the Holiday and Citrus bowls and make them the equal of anything the consortium has to offer.

Funny, but Delany didn't sound that way last August when he spoke at the league's kickoff luncheon. Referring to the Orange, Fiesta, Sugar and Cotton bowls at that time, he said, "These four and the Rose are arguably another half-

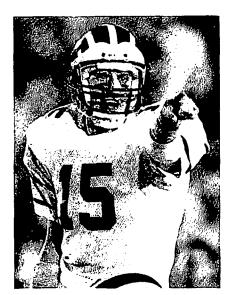


level above what I would call the 'tier two' bowls."

"Tier two" bowls are clearly where the Big Ten's also-rans belong, given their miserable success in the postseason since the conference began allowing teams other than its league champion to accept bowl bids in 1975. The Big Ten is 28-42-1 in postseason games since then. Toss out the conference's ghastly 3-14 Rose Bowl mark and its record is

Check the record books for the two decades prior to Ohio State's 1968 national crown and you'll find that four different Big Ten teams won national titles.

Of course, in those days, the final polls were taken before bowl games were played.



Big plans: Michigan's Elvis Grbac is pointing toward another record-setting

MICHIGAN

Coach: Gary Moeller (19-5, 2 years; 25-29-3

Ceach: Gary Moeller (19:5, 2 years; 25-29-3 overall, 5 years).

1991 reseri: 10-2 (lost to Washington in Rose Bowl). Big Teh: 8-0/1st.

Kirj Insten: Erick Anderson, L.B.; J.D., Carlson, K., Dave Diebolt, TE; Lance Dottin, CB; Matt Elliott, O6; Mike Evans, DT; Desmiond Howard, WR; Neil Simpson, L.B.; Greg Skrepenak, OT; Brian Townsend, LB; Yale VanDyne, FL: Otts Williams, S. Starters returning: Offices [7]: Joe Cocozzo, G, 6-3/294, Sr.; Rob Doherty, T. 6-6/295, Sr.; Steve Evertit, C, 6-5/270, Sr.; Elvis Grbac, OB; 6-5/220, Sr.; Burnie Legette, FB, 6-1/221, Sr.; Ricky Powers, TB, 6-0/205, Jr.; Doug Skene, G, 6-8/288, Sr. Delease [7]: Convin Brown, S, 6-1/185, Sr.; Martin Davis, LB, 6-3/234, Sr.; Chris Hutchinson, T, 6-2/260, Sr.; Steve Morrison, LB, 6-3/230, Jr.; Buster Stanley, M6/T, 6-2/261, Jr.; Marcus Walker, LB, 6-0/230, Soph.; Dwayne Ware, CB, 5-10/185, Sr. Kickers [1]: Eddie Azcona, P, 5-10/189, Sr.; Chris hay returates: Ninel Aphakhan, MG, Jr.; Derrick Alexander, WR, Jr. (RS/knee); Paul Barry, G, Soph.; Allie Burch, CB, Jr.; Justim Carlson, K, Soph.; Dave Dobrett, LB, Jr. (RS/knee); Matt Dyson, LB, Soph.; Eric Graves, MG, Jr.; Tony Henderson, MG, Soph.; Eric Graves, MG, Jr.; Tony Henderson, MG, Soph.; Eric Graves, MG, Jr.; Tony Henderson, MB, Soph.; Eric Graves, MG, Jr.; Tony Henderson, MR, Soph.; Steve Rekowski, DT, Jr.; Walter Swett, MR, Soph.; Geleman Wallace, CB, Sr.; Tyrone Wheatley, TB, Soph.

Tog sweepsirs: Deallo Anderson, DB, Fr.; Paul Barry, GG, Fr. (RS); Che* Foster, FB, Fr. (RS); Mercury Hayes, WR, Fr.; Jason Horn, DL, Fr. (RS); Trent Zenkewicz, DT, Fr. (RS), Eric Rost, PR.; Manul Toomer, WR, Fr.; Rob Vanderfeest, DJ, Fr. (RS); Trent Zenkewicz, DT, Fr. (RS); Set Set 12; Oktahoma State, Set La Che, Manu

School: At Notre Dame, Sept. 12; Oklahoma State, Sept. 19; Houston, Sept. 26; lovva, Oct. 3; Michigan State, Oct. 10; at Indiana, Oct. 17; Minnesota, Oct. 24; at Purdue, Oct. 31; at Northwestern, Nov. 7; IIlinois, Nov. 14; at Ohio State, Nov. 21.

Nickeaus: Wolvering: Site: Ann Arbor, Mich.

Outlook: Take away Desmond Howard's 138 points last year and Michigan still scored more than all but two teams in the conference. So why expect the Wolverines to struggle without him? Derrick Alexander's return from knee surgery gives Elvis Grbac a Howard-like threat, and a loaded backfield should shore up whatever void remains.

Offensive strengths: Grbac already owns the school record for touchdown passes (54) and completions (393). He should put those marks out of reach with the return of four starters from a line that allowed only 12 sacks last sea-

Offensive weaknesses: Look hard, very hard, and a deficiency surfaces at tight end. Michigan's starting tight end caught only eight passes last year, which proves the Wolverines' tight end is more a blocker than receiver.

Defensive strengths: Tackle Chris Hutchinson missed the last three regular-season games and still earned allleague honors. He and Buster Stanley are constant sack threats.

Defensive weaknesses: Erick Anderson's graduation leaves the Wolverines without their leading tackler of the last four seasons, which creates a gap at inside linebacker.

Special teams: Tyrone Wheatley's 88yard punt return in the spring game legitimizes him as Howard's replacement as a return man. Kicker Justin Carlson steps into the void left by his brother, J.D., Michigan's second-leading career scorer.

Key to success: Getting past the opener at Notre Dame. If Michigan does that. its next four games are at home and the rest of its schedule is fairly soft.

Sure signs of trouble: An injury to Grbac would force Michigan to abandon the passing game. A flare-up of Hutchinson's temperamental back would deplete the depth of the defensive line.

Coach Gary Moeller says: "You don't really replace a Howard, a (Greg) Skrepenak or an Anderson. It's up to the players in the next senior class to play a bigger role. That's where the strong Michigan tradition plays an important role in the continued success of the team."

OWA

Corch: Hayden Fry (100-51-5, 13 years; 189-

Carel: Hayden Fry. (100-51-5, 13 years; 189-140-9 overall; 30 years.)
1991 recent: 10-1-1 (lied Brigham Young in Holiday Bowl). Big: Ten: 7-1/2nd
Key Issae: Rob. Baxley, 07; Gary, Clark, S.; John Derby, LB; John Filloon, WR; Ron Geater, DT; Eddle Polly, CB, Matt Rodgers, CB, Mike, Saunders, TB; Jeff Skillett, K; Leroy Smith, DE; Brian Wise, S.
Sturters relarates; Offices (7): Alan Cross, TE, 6-4/225, Sr; Scott Davis, T, 6-4/270, Sr; Mike Deviln, C, 6-3/275, Sr, Mike Ferroni, B, 6-2/200, Sr; Danan Hughes, WB, 6-2/202, Sr; Lew Montgomery, FB, 6-0/212, Sr; Ted Vellcer, G, 6-4/285, Sr; Datasa (5): Brian Bielenia, NG, 6-3/225, Sr; Larry Blue, E, 6-2/235, Sr; Teddy Jo Faley, LB, 6-3/236, Sr; Scott Plate, CB, 5-11/195, Jr; Mike Wells, T, 6-4/273, Jr; Kickers (1): Jim Hujsak, P, 6-0/200, Sr;

6-0/200, Sr.

Gol/200, Sr. Mikar Dalley LB, Jr., Anthony, Dean, WB, S. Sr., Mikar Dalley LB, Jr., Anthony, Dean, WB, Soph.; Matt Eyde, QB, Jr., Anthony, Dean, WB, Soph.; Matt Eyde, QB, Jr., Jim, Harilleb, QB, Sr., John Hartlleb, DE, Soph.; Garids: James, QB, Sr., Harold Jasper, SE, Soph.; Marvin Lampkin, TB, Sr., Bill Lange, OT, Jr., Rall Mady, C. Soph.; Jason Olejniczak, S. Jr.; Matt Quest, OT, Jr., Bob Rees, OT, Sr. Ttp asymptomics: George Bennett, DE, Fr. (RS); John Hanry Houston, DT, Fr. (RS); Chris Jackson, CB, Fr. (RS); Matt Purdy, QG, Fr. (RS); Todd Romano, K/P, Fr. (RS); Ryan-Terry, TB, Soph. (transfer/Tennessee State).

Seudoli: North Carolina State (Kickoff Classic at East, Rittherford, N.J.), Abg., 29; Miami (Fla.), Sept. 6; Idwa State, Sept. 12; at Golorado, Sept. 26; at Michigan, Oct. 37; Northwestern, Nov. 14; at Mindiana, Nov. 7; Northwestern, Nov. 14; at Min-

diana, Nov. 7; Northwestern, Nov. 14; at Min-nesota, Nov. 21

Mickerne: Hawkeyes Site: lowa City, la

Outlook: The Hawkeyes have the talent to fill the holes left by graduation, but they may not have the time. Three of Iowa's first five foes are Miami (Fla.), Colorado and Michigan. If the Hawkeyes come through that stretch unscathed, they could challenge for the

Offensive strengths: Center Mike Devlin heads a list of four returnees on the line. Alan Cross and Danan Hughes are good receivers, and Lew Montgomery is a top fullback. The return of those players should give Jim Hartlieb time to develop at quarterback.



Setting the standard: If everyone on the Ohio State defense plays with the same intensity as Steve Tovar, the Buckeyes could win a bowl game this season.

Offensive weaknesses: The loss of 1,000yard rusher Mike Saunders leaves untested Marvin Lampkin alone at tail-

Defensive strengths: Mike Wells' return at tackle gives Iowa reason to believe it once again will rank among the conference leaders in defending the run.

Defensive weaknesses: The secondary is stocked with three newcomers. And Iowa won't have the departed Leroy Smith to rush the passer and force bad throws. As a result, expect Miami and Michigan to test the Hawkeyes' secondary early in the season.

Special teams: Iowa's biggest weakness the last two seasons appears no better, and the loss of steady kicker Jeff Skillett only compounds the problem. Punter Jim Hujsak returns, but that may be a mixed blessing, considering he ranked last in the Big Ten (32.6-yard average).

Key to success: Iowa has boasted the all-conference quarterback seven times in the last nine years, so Hartlieb must prove to be an effective replacement for the departed Matt Rodgers.

Sure sign of trouble: If offensive coordinator Carl Jackson's departure for a job with the San Francisco 49ers after 13 years on the staff and the off-season death of offensive line coach John O'Hara cut into the Hawkeyes' point production, thus reducing the secondary's margin for error.

Coach Hayden Fry says: "We are faced with finding replacements for some outstanding football players. We did a great job of solving that problem last year. I hope we are as fortunate again."

OHIO STATE

Ceach: John Cooper (27-18-2, 4 years; 109-

58-4 overall, 15 years). 1991 record: 8-4 (lost to Syracuse in Hall of Fame Bowl). Big Ten: 5-3/T3rd.

Key lasse: Bernard Edwards, FL; Rich Frimel, DT; Kent Graham, QB; Scottle Graham, FB; Judah Her-man, LB; John Kacherski; LB; Carlos Snow, TB; Alenzo Spellman, DE.

Alonzo Spellman, DE.
Startera returning: Offense [7]: Len Hartman, G, 62/280; Sr.; Alan Kiine, T, 6-7/290, Jr.; Paul Long,
C, 6-5/270; Sr.; Dave Momot, G, 6-5/265, Jr.;
Cedric Saunders, TE, 6-3/238, Jr.; Brian Stablein,
SE, 6-1/186, Sr.; Jason Winrow, T, 6-6/295; Jr.
Defense [7]: Bryan Cook, CB, 6-3/190, Sr.; Roger
Harper, S, 6-4/224, Jr.; Chico Nelson, S, 6-1/190,
Jr.; Foster Paulk, CB, 5-11/180, Sr.; Greg Smith,
NG, 6-2/250, Sr.; Steve Tovar, LB, 6-4/240, Sr.;
Mark Williams, LB, 6-4/220, Jr. Kisters [1]: Tim
Williams, K/P, 5-9/180, Jr.
Other hay returning: Butler By/not'e, TB, Jr.; Joey

Williams, K.P., 5-9/180, Jr.

Other key returnes: Builler By note, TB, Jr., Josy
Galloway, SE, Soph.; Preston Harrison, LB, Soph.
(RS/groin); Kirk-Harbstreit, OB, Sr.; Dante Lee,
FL, Sr.; Chris Sanders, SE, Soph. (RS/ankle);
Jason Simmons, LB, Jr.; Hobert Smith, TB, Soph.;
Rod Smith, OB, Jr.; Jack Thrush, C, Jr.: Tim Walton, CB, Jr.

Tep suveniars: Dan Colson, DB, Fr.: Bob Hoying, OB, Fr. (RS); Marton Kerner, CB, Fr. (RS); Tito Paul, S, Fr. (RS); Craig Powell, LB, Fr. (RS); Korey Stringer, OT, Fr.: Lorenzo Styles, LB, Fr.: Walter Taylor, S, Fr. (RS); Dan Wilkinson, OT, Fr. (RS). Sebadale: Louisville, Sept. 5; Bowling Green State, Sept. 12; at Syracuse; Sept. 19; at Wisconsin, Oct. 3; Illinois, Oct. 10; Northwestern, Oct. 17; at Micht-gan State, Oct. 24; at lowa, Oct. 31; Minnesota, Nov. 7; at Indiana, Nov. 14; Michigan, Nov. 21. Nicknews: Buckeyes.

Outlook: Four seasons under John Cooper have produced no better than a tie for third place in the Big Ten. The Buckeyes have no player on their roster who has ever won a bowl game or beat-

Continued

Site: Columbus, O.



ALL-BIG TEN TEAM

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Elvis Grbac, QB, Michigan

DEFENSE



Jeff Zgonina, NG, Purdue

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE:

Amani Toomer, WR, Michigan

DEFENSE:

Trent Zenkewicz, DL, Michigan

FIRSTITEAM **OFFENSE**

POS.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	DANAN HUGHES, Iowa	6-2/202	Sr.
WR	DERRICK ALEXANDER, Michigan	6-2/169	Sr.
TE	MICHAEL ROAN, Wisconsin	6-3/235	Seph.
Т	ALAN KLINE, Ohio State	6-7/290	Jr.
T	SCOTT DAVIS, Iowa	6-4/270	Sr.
C	MIKE DEVLIN, Iowa	6-3/275	Sr.
G	JOE COCOZZO, Michigan	6-3/294	Sr.
G	TED HARRISON, Minnesota	6-4/301	Sr.
QB	ELVIS GRBAC, Michigan	6-5/220	Sr.
RB	RICKY POWERS, Michigan	6-0/205	Jr.
RB	ROBERT SMITH, Ohio State	6-2/195	Soph.
			•

	DEFENSE		
Pos.	Hams, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	JEFF ZGONINA, Purdue	6-2/284	Sr.
DL	MIKE WELLS, Iowa	6-4/275	Jr.
DL	CHRIS HUTCHINSON, Michigan	6-2/260	Sr.
L8	STEVE TOVAR, Ohio State	6-4/240 .	Sr.
LB	DANA HOWARD, Illinois	6-0/240	Soph
LB	JASON SIMMONS, Ohio State	6-5/240	Jr.
LB	CHARLES BEAUCHAMP, Indiana	6-2/230	Jr.
DB	JIMMY YOUNG, Purdue	5-11/188	J۲.
DB	ROGER HARPER, Ohio State	6-4/224	Jr.
DB	CORWIN BROWN, Michigan	6-1/185	Sr.
DB	REGGIE HOLT, Wisconsin	5-11/195	Jr.

SPECIALISTS

38.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Clas
	SCOTT BONNELL, Indiana	5-11/170	
P	DEAN KAUFMAN, Minnesota	6-4/256	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE:

	~		
Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
WR	THOMAS LEWIS, Indiana	6-2/190	Jr.
WR	JOHN WRIGHT, Illinois	6-0/190	Sr.
TE	ALAN CROSS, Iowa	6-4/225	Sr.
T	BRAD HOPKINS, Illinois	6-3/302	Sr.
, T	JASON WINROW, Chio State	6-6/295	Jr.
Ċ	STEVE EVERITT, Michigan	6-5/270	Sr.
G	CHUCK BELIN, Wisconsin	6-3/300	Sr.
G	TOBY HEATON, Michigan State	6-6/292	Sr.
QB	JASON VERDUZCO, Illinois	5-9/190	Sr.
RB	TICO DUCKETT, Michigan State	5-10/185	Sr.
RB	TYRONE WHEATLEY, Michigan	6-1/215	Soph.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL.	GREG SMITH, Ohio State	6-2/250	Sr.
DŁ	BUSTER STANLEY, Michigan	6-2/261	Jr.
DĹ	MIKE THOMPSON, Wisconsin	6-4/260	Soph.
LB	GARY CASPER, Wisconsin	6-2/235	Sr.
LB	ROB FREDRICKSON, Michigan St.	6-4/230	J۲.
LB	JOHN MILLER, Indiana	6-1/220	Sr.
LB	DWIGHT REESE, Wisconsin	6-3/220	Sr.
DB	MYRON BELL, Michigan State	6-1/202	Jr.
DB	BRYAN COOK, Ohio State	6-3/190	Sr.
DB	PAT JOHNSON, Purdue	6-1/208	Jr.
D8	WILLIE LINDSEY, Northwestern	5-9/177	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

PK	Mama, School CHRIS RICHARDSON, Illinois FORRY WELLS, Illinois	HL/WL 6-4/249 6-4/208	Class Soph. Jr.
F	PURMT WELLS, IIIIIUIS	0-47200	JI.

en Michigan or Illinois. Ohio State may beat Illinois this year, but winning a bowl game and beating Michigan may have to wait another season.

Offensive strengths: The return of the entire line and record-setting tailback Robert Smith, who quit the team in 1991 after earning Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors, gives the Buckeyes a lethal combination.

Offensive weaknesses: Only two of the seven high school quarterbacks who have signed with Ohio State since Cooper took over in 1988 are still in the program and playing that position. Fifthyear senior Kirk Herbstreit, a career backup, or redshirt freshman Bob Hoying will start at quarterback this year.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Jason Simmons set school records with 181/2 tackles for losses and 101/2 quarterback sacks last year. Imagine what he'll do in '92 when he gets to play full time. Steve Tovar is one of the best linebackers in the country.

Defensive weaknesses: Safeties Roger Harper and Chico Nelson love headhunting. If they shared the same love for deep coverage, the Buckeyes' defense would be better served.

Special teams: Tim Williams was forced to punt last year and performed pretty well. But pulling double duty wrecked Williams' accuracy as a place-kicker. After hitting 13 of 18 field goals in 1990, Williams converted just 10 of 16 in 1991. Smith's return adds life to the kickoffreturn team.

Key to success: Improving a woeful

passing game that gained only 1,384 yards, Ohio State's lowest total since 1977.

Sure sign of trouble: If neither Herbstreit nor Hoying distinguishes himself and Ohio State is forced to rotate its quarterbacks again.

Coach John Cooper says: "Three straight years, we've gone into the Michigan game with two losses. We haven't beaten them or won a bowl game. If we're going to do that, our great players are going to have to play great."

MICHIGAN STATE

Coach: George Peries (57-44-4; 9 years).
1991 record; 3-8. Big Ten; 3-5/T6th;
Key losses: Chuck Bullough, EB; Josh Butland, P;
Alan Haller, CB; Courtney Hawkins, WR; Bill Johnson, DE; Jim Jehnson, OT; John MacNeill, DE;
Chris Piwowarczyk, C.

son, DE; Jim Johnson, DT; John MacNell, DE; Chris Piwowarczyk, C.
Starters returaleg: Offesse [7]: Brice Abrams, FB, 6-2/247, Jr.; Tico Duckett. TB, 5-10/185, Sr.; Shane Hannah, T, 6-6/320, Soph.; Toby Heaton, G, 6-6/292, Sr.; Mitch Lyons, TE, 6-4/255, Sr.; Mark MacFarland, WR, 5-9/175, Sr.; Jim Miller, QB, 6-4/202, Jr.; Befense [7]: Myron Bell, S; 6-1/202, Jr.; Stan Callender, CB, 6-3/190, Soph.; Matt Christensen, LB, 6-4/230, Soph.; Rob Fredrickson, LB, 6-4/230, Jr.; William Reese, T, 6-1/258, Sr.; Etic White, E, 6-5/263, Sr.; Brian Winters, CB, 5-10/176, Jr. Kickers [1]: Jim DelVerne, K, 6-2/184, Sr.; Other by reterness: Mill Coleman, WR/OB, Soph.; Brian DeMarco, OT, Soph.; John Dignan, LB, Jr.; Mike Edwards, DE, Sr. (RS/medical); Jeff Graham, C, Sr.; Ty Hallock, LB (switched from TE), Sr.; Willie Hill, DE, Sr. (RS/knee); Brian Howard, WR, Jr. (RS/knee); Aaron Jackson, DE, Soph.; Brett Loritis, OG, Jr.; Todd Murray/CB, Sr. (RS/knee); Sebastian Small, TB, Jr.; Steve Wasylk, S, Jr. Tog nswcomstr: Greg Anderson; LB, Fr. (RS); Curtis Brown, DL, Soph. (Prop 48); Robert Denton, OT,

Fr. (RS); Pat Humphrey, DB, Soph. (Prop 48); Robert McBride, DL, Fr. (RS); Mushin Muhammad, WR, Fr. (RS/knee); Dale Person, LB/DL, Soph. (Prop 48); Hickey Thompson, TB, Soph. (Prop

(Prop. 48); nickey manipsan, 12; Notre Dame, 48).
Sekadzie: Central Michigan, Sept. 12; Notre Dame, Sept. 19; at Boston College, Sept. 26; Indiana, Oct. 3; at Michigan, Oct. 10; at Minnesota, Oct. 17; Ohio State, Oct. 24; at Northwestern, Oct. 31; Wisconsin, Nov. 7; Purdue, Nov. 14; at Illinois, Nov. 21.
Hickonse: Spartans.
Site: East Lansing, Mich.

Outlook: The Spartans struggle to get started every year, but a friendly early schedule may help change that this year. The players love George Perles, and he is bound to have an I'll-show-'em attitude toward school administrators after being forced out as athletic direc-

Offensive strengths: Perles prefers to shuffle his tailbacks, and he has a stacked deck to work with. Tico Duckett is 809 yards away from becoming the sixth player in Big Ten history to rush for 4,000 yards, but Sebastian Small and Hickey Thompson also should get playing time.

Offensive weaknesses: The Spartans are without an established big-play threat at receiver for the first time in nine years. Former standouts Mark Ingram, Andre Rison and Courtney Hawkins had forced opponents to cover deep, but whether sophomore Mill Coleman can do the same is unknown.

Defensive strengths: End Willie Hill and cornerback Todd Murray are back from injuries that kept them out nearly

100 PERCENT RECYCLED STOCK

all of last year, which should help boost Michigan State from the bottom tier of the conference's defensive rankings.

Defensive weaknesses: Everything in Michigan State's defense is predicated on funneling action to the middle linebacker. Replacing Chuck Bullough and his school-record 175 tackles won't be easy for his replacement, either John Dignan, Ty Hallock or Greg Anderson.

Special teams: Back is Jim DelVerne, who hit 12 of 17 field-goal attempts last season, but the Spartans lack a proven punter, given the loss of four-year starter Josh Butland. Coleman will try to replace Hawkins as a kick returner.

Key to success: The Spartans must improve their defense against the run, which ranked ninth in the Big Ten.

Sure sign of trouble: If Jim Miller falters at quarterback and Michigan State reverts to rotating him with Bret Johnson, who was a bust last year after transferring from UCLA.

Coach George Perles says: "Last year was the exception, not the rule. With the players we have coming back and with the experience we gained, we should be a much stronger team."

/INDIANA

Paul Williams, LB.

Coach: Bill Mallory (44-46-3, 8 years; 143-

98-4 overall, 22 years). 1991 record: 7-4-1 (beat Baylor in Copper Bowl). Big Ten: 5-3/T3rd.

Greg Farrall, DE; Mark Hagen, LB; Shawn Harper, OT; Jason Mack, C; Troy Newton, OG; Randy Schneider, OT; Jim Summerall, S; Todd Walker, FB;

Paul Williams, LB.
Starters returning: Offense (4): Trent Green, QB, 6-4/215, Sr.; Thomas Lewis, WR, 6-2/190, Jr.; Scott McGowan, WR, 5-11/185; Sr.; Todd Smith, G, 6-3/290, Jr. Butonse (7): Charles Beauchamp, LB, 6-2/230, Jr.; Hurvin McCormack, T, 6-4/260, Jr.; Larry McDaniel, T, 6-3/240, Sr.; Mike Middleton, CB, 5-11/210, Sr.; John Miller, LB, 6-1/220, Sr.; Mose Richardson, CB, 6-2/180, Jr.; Damon Watts, S, 5-10/175, Jr. Kiekers (2): Scott Ronnell K, 5-11/210, Sr.; Kiekers (2): Scott Ronnell K, 5-11/210, Sr.;

Richardson, CB, 6-2/180, Jr.; Damon Watts, S, 5-10/175, Jr. Kickers [2]: Scott Bonnell, K, 5-11/170, Sr.; Jim DiGuillo, P, 6-0/180, Soph.; Other key returness: Eddie Baety, WR, Soph.; Matt Bomba, DT, Sr.; Jason Boyd, OT, Soph.; Lance Brown, S, Soph.; Chris Dyer, S, Jr.; Ross Hales, TE, Jr.; Jim Hannon, OG, Sr.; Tobl Kerns, FB, Soph.; Brett Law, TB, Soph.; Tom McKinnon, OT, Soph.; Steve Perkins, S, Jr.; Al Thurman, LB, Soph.; Bernard Whittington, LB, Jr.

Top newcomers: Jermaine Chaney, TB, Soph. (Prop 48); Sean Glover, TB, Fr. (RS); Eric Matthews, WR, Fr. (RS); Shannon Rutledge, P, Jr. (JC).

Schadule: Mami of Ohio, Sept. 12: at Kentucky, Sept. 19; Missouri, Sept. 26; at Michigan State, Oct. 3; at Northwestern, Oct. 10; Michigan, Oct. 17; Wisconsin, Oct. 24; at Minnesota, Oct. 31; Iowa, Nov. 7; Ohio State, Nov. 14; at Purdue, Nov. 21. Nicknams: Hoosiers.

8ite: Bloomington, Ind.

Outlook: Indiana has been to a bowl five of the last six years and was the only Big Ten team to win its postseason game last year. But the Hoosiers have seriously challenged for the conference championship only once during that span, and they're not likely to be a contender this season.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Trent Green is the best run-pass threat in the conference. Now he must produce as the focal point of the offense for the first time in his career.

Offensive weaknesses: Indiana has built



Marquee man: Charles Beauchamp headlines an Indiana front that is both experienced and talented.

its team around an outstanding tailback the last six seasons, but no Anthony Thompson or Vaughn Dunbar appears on the roster this year. Brett Law and Sean Glover are the candidates to start. Defensive strengths: Charles Beauchamp headlines a front that is both experienced and talented. He can concentrate on rushing the passer, because tackles Hurvin McCormack and Larry McDaniel will stuff the run.

Defensive weaknesses: Indiana forced only 16 turnovers last year, and with just one experienced linebacker returning, the Hoosiers again could finish last in that category.

Special teams: Scott Bonnell is the conference's most reliable kicker, but punter Jim DiGuilio's 35.6-yard average and horrible hang time must improve.

Key to success: Finding a replacement for Dunbar to give Green's play-action fakes some legitimacy.

Sure sign of trouble: If inexperience at tackle and tight end reduces the Hoosiers' effectiveness at running the option to the wide side.

Coach Bill Mallory says: "Both (Law and Glover) are in there (at tailback) together. They're both clearly Number 1. It will go back and forth. Both will play. We'll be using more than one tailback."

LLINOIS

Coach: Lou Tepper (0-1, entering first full season).

1991 record: 6-6 (lost to UCLA in John Hancock

Bowl), Big Ten: 4-4/5th. Key lasses: Kameno Bell, FB; Julyon Brown, LB; Jon Gustafsson, DT; Mike Hopkins, S; Tony Laster, OT; Mike Poloskey, LB; Marion Primous, S; Tim Simpson, OG; Sean Streeter, DT; Elbert Turner, FL: Mark Starters returning: Officese (7): Ken Dilger, TE, 6-5/243, Soph.; Greg Engel, C, 6-3/280, Jr.; Steve Feagin, RB, 5-11/197, Sr.; Brad Hopkins, T, 6-3/302, Sr.; Jim Pesek, T, 6-5/287, Sr.; Jason Verduzco, CB, 5-9/190, Sr.; John Wright, WR, 6-0/190, Sr. Defease (4): Robert Crumpton, CB, 6-1/190, Soph.; Dana Howard, LB, 6-0/240, Soph.; Filmel Johnson, CB, 5-10/185, Jr.; Aaron Shelby, LB, 6-1/230, Jr. Kickers (2): Chris Richardson, K, 6-4/249, Soph.; Forty Wells, P; 6-4/208, Jr. Bitter key returnsize: Chad Capher, DT, Soph.; Filker

Forey Wells, 1947/205,017, Soph.; Erik Foggey, NT, Sn.; Jeff Hasenstab, DT, Soph.; John Holecek, LB, Soph.; Jonathan Kerr, OG, Soph.; Wagner Lester, FB, Jr. (RS/foot); Clinton Lynch,

RB, Jr.

Top as recomers: Ty Douthard, RB, Fr.; Kevin Hardy, LB, Fr. (RS); John Horn, DT, Fr. (RS); Predrag Jones, OT, Fr. (RS); Tim McCloud, DT, Fr. (RS). Chris Moore, RB, Fr.; William Morris, LB, Fr. Sebadals: Northern Illinois, Sept. 5; Missouri, Sept. 12; at Houston, Sept. 19; at Minnesota, Oct. 3; at Chio State, Oct. 10; lowa, Oct. 17; Northwestern, Oct. 24; at Wisconsin, Oct. 31; Purdue, Nov. 7; at Michigan, Nov. 14; Michigan State, Nov. 21.

Mickazane; Fighting Illini.

Site: Champaign Ill.

Site: Champaign, III.

Outlook: John Mackovic and his playbook are gone. New Coach Lou Tepper. Mackovic's defensive coordinator, has handed the offense to first-year assistant Tom Beck. He will mix in more runs to balance an attack that gained almost twice as many yards passing as rushing.

Offensive strengths: Jason Verduzco is within range of becoming the school's all-time passing leader, but he has never let his accomplishments diminish the chip-on-the-shoulder attitude that allows him to play above his height limitation.

Offensive weaknesses: The loss of receiving and rushing leader Kameno Bell leaves room for someone among an unproven threesome of Wagner Lester,

Clinton Lynch or Steve Feagin to step in as the Illini's featured back.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Dana Howard was among the conference's best as a freshman in '91. He and John Holecek, who must rebound from knee surgery, make running up the middle a waste of time.

Defensive weaknesses: A willingness to play fifth-year seniors last season leaves Illinois with nothing but freshmen and sophomores up front.

Special teams: The kicking is solid, with Chris Richardson back to handle placekicking chores after hitting 13 of 18 kicks as a freshman. Punter Forry Wells is a bankable commodity. The return game is a worry, however, as dropped punts cost the Illini a pair of wins last season.

Key to success: Developing more offensive balance, not only to take pressure off Verduzco, but also to keep Illinois' young defense off the field.

Sure sign of trouble: If Verduzco balks at a new offense that will cut into his high-percentage dump-off passes and occasionally ask him to run the option.

Coach Lou Tepper says: "I'm going to be very disappointed if we aren't a real solid factor in the race. There isn't anyone from whom we'll back down or with whom we feel we won't be competitive."

PURDUE

Coach: Jim Colletto (4-7, 1 year; 21-45-1

overan, 6 years). 1991 recent: 4-7. Big Ten: 3-5/T6th. Key losses: Eric Bruun, P; Denny Chronopoulos, OG; Bob Dressel, C; Robert Hardin, DT; Frank Kmet, DT; Peyton Minter, LB; Derick Schmidt, OT; Jim

Peyton Minter, LB; Derick Schmidt, OT; Jim Schwantz, LB; Rick Smith, S. Starters returning: Offease [8]: Tedman Brown, SE, 6-3/208, Jr.; Elvin Catdwell, G, 6-4/275, Jr.; Ernest Calloway, FL, 5-8/153, Sr.; Ariee Conners, FB, 6-0/209, Jr.; Scott Green, TE, 6-3/249, Soph.; Jeff Hill, TB, 6-0/184, Jr.; Eric Hunter, QB, 6-4/205, Sr.; Kevin Janiak, T, 6-5/293, Sr. Dafasse [7]: Tank Adams, CB, 5-9/183, Sr.; Eric Beatty, LB, 6-0/241, Sr.; Don Delvy, LB, 6-1/237, Sr.; Eric Gray, T, 6-4/252, Soph.; Pat Johnson, S, 6-1/208, Jr.; Jimmy Young, CB, 5-11/188, Jr.; Jeff Zgonina, NG, 6-2/284, Sr.; Kfekrs [1]: Jee O'Leary, K, 5-7/155. 6-2/284, Sr. Kiekera [1]: Joe O'Leary, K, 5-7/155,

Other key returness: David Bratton, OG, Sr.; Bill Clince, C, Jr.; James Cole, DT, Soph.; Earl Coleman, FB, Sr.; Rodney Dennis, WR, Sr.; Ikee Dozler, S, Soph.; Scott Hoffman, QB, Sr.; Nick Mamula, C, Sr.; Matt Pike, QB, Soph.; Corey Rogers, TB, Soph.; Tony Simmons, TE, Soph.; Kevin Strickland, LB,

Top asweemers: Mike Alstott, FB, Fr.; Robert Deignan, P., Fr.; Alfie Hill, OT, Fr. (RS); Chris Koeppen, LB, Fr.; Vito Speciale, K, Fr. (RS/knee). Robpell, LB, FT, Wito Speciale, R. FT. (16) Killey, Robedte: California, Sept. 12; Toledo, Sept. 19; at Notre Dame, Sept. 26; Northwestern, Oct. 3; Minnesola, Oct. 10; at Wisconsin, Oct. 17; at Iowa, Oct. 24; Michigan, Oct. 31; at Illinois, Nov. 7; at Michigan State, Nov. 14; Indiana, Nov. 21.

Mekrama: Boilermakers Site: West Lafayette, Ind.

Outlook: The Boilermakers made giant strides in their first season under Jim Colletto, improving their rushing game by more than 300 percent and bettering their giveaway-takeaway ratio from minus 23 in '90 to plus three in '91. The schedule is set up for a fast start, but four road games in the final six weeks could torpedo Purdue's progress.

Offensive strengths: Returning running backs Jeff Hill, Corey Rogers and Arlee Conners helped turn the Boilermakers from Division I-A's worst rushing team in 1990 (55.6 yards per game) to the fifth best in the Big Ten (177.7) in 1991.

Offensive weaknesses: Three new starters will play up front, which is a concern considering that Purdue allowed 37 sacks last year. The receiving corps must show improvement, too.

Defensive strengths: Noseguard Jeff Zgonina demands attention from two and sometimes three blockers. Cornerback Jimmy Young heads a list of three returning starters in a secondary that led the conference with 20 interceptions.

Defensive weaknesses: Aside from Zgonina, the line is young and lacks depth. which leaves Purdue susceptible to run-oriented opponents. The overall depth of the defense is questionable.

Special teams: Redshirt freshman Vito Speciale may take over for fifth-year senior kicker Joe O'Leary, who was anything but special last year. Freshman Robert Deignan will try to replace Eric Bruun, who ranked sixth in the nation in punting last year.

Key to success: Protecting senior quarterback Eric Hunter, who has yet to deliver on the flashes of brilliance he showed as a freshman.

Sure sign of trouble: If Hunter fails to deliver and forces Purdue to win with its running game.

Coach Jim Colletto says: "There are two things you have to do to become a championship contender. They are, one, run the ball and, two, become a dominant defensive team. I think that base has been laid."



Tackle hunter: Thanks to a pair of strong linebackers, strong safety Reggie Holt again could lead the Badgers in tackles.

WISCONSIN

Coses: Barry Alvarez (6-16, 2 years). 1991 record: 5-6. Big Ten: 2-6/T8th. Key losses: Eddie Fielcher, CB; Tony Lowery, QB; Brendan Lynch, LB; Duer Sharp, LB; Troy Vincent,

Starters returning: Offense (10): Tyler Adam, T. 6-4/ 285, Jr.; Chuck Belin, G. 6-3/300, Sr.; Aaron Brown, WR. 5-10/170, Sr.; Mike Bryan, G. 6-3/ 270, Sr.; Lee DeRamus, WR. 6-4/185, Soph.; Ter-270, 51., Lee Denamus, ww. 6-4/163, Soph.; Ter-rell Fletcher, TB, 5-10/180, Soph.; Mark Mont-gomery, FB, 6-0/205, Jr.; Joe Panos, T, 6-3/265, Jr.; Michael Roan, TE, 6-3/235, Soph.; Mike Ver-stegen, T, 6-6/270, Soph. Delbass [7]: Gar-casper, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Carlos Fowler, T, 6-3/ 270, Jr.; Reggie Holt, S, 5-11/195, Jr.; Lee Krue-ger, NG, 6-1/260, Jr.; Scott Nelson, S, 6-0/200, Jr.; Dwight Panes, 18, 8, 2/200, S., Mike Teneser, Dwight Resse, LB, 6-2/220, Sr.; Mike Thompson, T, 6-4/260, Soph. Kickers (2): Rich Thompson, K, 6-0/200, Sr.; Sam Veit, P/K, 5-9/165, Soph. Other key returness: Lignell Crawford, WR, Sr. (RS/

knee); Dave Czech, TE, Jr.; Jay Macias, QB, Soph.; Jeff Messenger, CB, Soph.; Cory Raymer, C, Soph.; Lamark Shackerford, NG, Jr.; Melvin Tucker, CB, Jr.; Chad Yocum, LB, Soph. Top newcomers: Kerwin Badie, WR, Fr.; Darrell Bev-

log bevecusurs; kerwin Badie, WH, Fr.; Dafreit Bevell, OB, Fr. (transfer/Northern Artzona); James Olarby, OL, Fr.; Charles Davis, FB, Fr.; Matt Nyquist, FB, Fr. (RS/arm); Jamle Vanderveldt, DL, Fr.; Jerry Wunsch, OL, Fr.

Scholate: At Washington, Sept. 12; Bowling Green State, Sept. 19; Northern Illinois, Sept. 26; Ohio

State, Oct. 3; at lowa, Oct. 10; Purdue, Oct. 17; at Indiana, Oct. 24; Illinols, Oct. 31; at Michigan State, Nov. 7; Minnesota, Nov. 14; at Northwestern, Nov. 21.

Hicknams: Badgers. Site: Madison, Wis.

Outlook: After posting five wins and narrowly losing to Iowa and Indiana, Barry Alvarez's rebuilding job appears ahead of schedule. If improvement guaranteed a bowl bid, Wisconsin could make its travel plans now. Instead, a non-conference game at Washington probably will leave the Badgers one win shy of a postseason trip.

Offensive strengths: Youth is Wisconsin's greatest weapon. The Badgers lost their starting quarterback, but five of the top six rushers, three of the top four receivers and three starting linemen played their first season of college football last year.

Offensive weaknesses: If a team must run the ball to win the Big Ten, don't bet on the Badgers. They gained 78 yards or less on the ground in five of their six

Defensive strengths: Linebackers Gary Casper and Dwight Reese present problems from the inside and the outside, freeing strong safety Reggie Holt to perhaps lead the team in tackles again. Defensive weaknesses: Both cornerbacks, including All-America Troy Vincent, are gone from a secondary that led the conference in pass defense.

Special teams: Vincent's departure leaves a gap in the return game. Even if the Badgers can't run back kicks, their coverage will be excellent.

Key to success: The line must open some holes for tailback Terrell Fletcher so the Badgers aren't outgained two to one on the ground again.

Sure sign of trouble: If cornerbacks Jeff Messenger and Melvin Tucker experience nightmarish seasons.

Coach Barry Alvarez says: "If we can keep upgrading our talent, we're going

to move along and get to where we want to be in a hurry. We all feel we're going to be much better than last year."

MINNESOTA

Case: Jim Wacker (first year at Minnesota; 144-91-3 overall, 21 years).
1991 record: 2-9: Big Ten: 1-77/10th.
Key losse: Frank Brixtins, C; Anthony Bryant, DE; Pat Evans, TE; Scott Hendrickson, OG; Paul Hopewell, WR; Gary Isakson, DT; Keswic Joiner, WR; James King, FB; Sean Lumpkin, S; Joel Staats, 18: Andre Therdies. S Ben Wilkins DT.

Wi; James King, FB; Sean Lumpkin, S; Joel Staats, LB; Andre Thaddles, S; Ben Williams, DE. Strater returning: Offices [5]; Keith Ballard, T, 6-5/304, Sr.; Antonio Carter, TB, 6-1/220, Jr.; Marquel Fleetwood, QB, 6-1/195, Sr.; Ted Harrison, G, 6-4/301, Sr.; Patrick O'Brien, T, 6-4/305, Soph. Detect [5]: Dennis Cappella, T, 6-3/233, Jr.; Andre Davis, LB, 6-0/239, Sr.; Derek Fisher, CB, 5-10/200, Sr. Pierek Heath, EB, 6-2/223, Jr. P. 5-10/190, Sr.; Russ Heath, LB, 6-2/222, Jr.; Dri-non Mays, CB, 5-10/190, Jr. Kiskers (2): Mike Chalbarg, K, 6-0/175; Soph.; Dean Kaufman, R, 6-

Other key reterass: Toby Anderson, OG, Soph.; Steven Cambrice, TE, Jr.; Doyle Cockrell, DT, Soph.; William Collins, LB, Jr.; Omar Douglas, WR, Jr.; Lewis Garrison, WR, Soph.; Edward Hawthorne, DT, Soph.; Aaron Piepkorn, K, Sr.; Ken Se-

Top newcomers: Michael Gist, DB, Fr. (RS); Ernest Rhoney, DL, Soph. (Prop 48); Daryn White, WR, Fr. (RS).

Pr. (ns.). Sebstelis: San Jose State, Sept. 12: Colorado, Sept. 19; at Pittsburgh, Sept. 26: Illinois; Oct. 3; at Pur-due, Oct. 10; Michigan State, Oct. 17; at Michigan, Oct. 24; Indiana, Oct. 31; at Ohio State, Nov. 7; at Wisconsin, Nov. 14; lowa, Nov. 21. Nickname: Golden Gophers.

8lte: Minneapolis.

Outlook: Minnesota's prospects can't be too good or John Gutekunst would not have been fired to make room for Jim Wacker, the Gophers' fourth coach in 10 seasons. Wacker inherits a team that finished last in the Big Ten, so any progress he achieves will be welcomed. Offensive strengths: Quarterback Marquel Fleetwood was named after Raquel Welch. He won't win any beauty contests at the position, but he'll get an opportunity to shine in an offense that will pass 60 percent of the time.

Offensive weaknesses: What good is a passing offense without experienced receivers? Minnesota must find a way to score more points than it did in '91 (a Big Ten-low 9.4 per game).

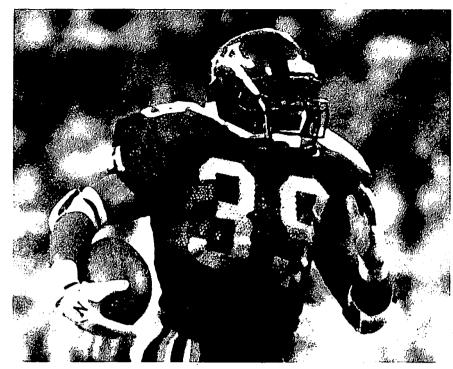
Defensive strengths: Cornerbacks Drinon Mays and Derek Fisher held their own in pass coverage last year. But

they weren't tested often because the

Gophers boasted the most generous rushing defense in the Big Ten.

Defensive weaknesses: With the loss of six starters, the defense will be green. But that may be good, considering the seniors were part of a unit that finished last in the Big Ten in total defense, ninth in scoring defense and eighth in passing defense.

Special teams: Mike Chalberg and Aaron Piepkorn will compete for placekicking duties. They combined to hit eight of 11 field goals, but converted only two of six extra points last year. The Gophers were equally inept on punt returns and punt coverage. Dean Kaufman averaged 38.1 yards per punt in '91. Key to success: Tailback Antonio Carter must prove that his two 100-yard rushing efforts near the end of last season



The jury's out: Minnesota tailback Antonio Carter must prove that his two 100-yard efforts near the end of last season were no fluke.

were no fluke. Carter then would provide an alternative to Fleetwood's pass-

Sure sign of trouble: If the defense fails to stop anyone, forcing Minnesota to score often to win.

Coach Jim Wacker says: "I promise you we will turn it around. The pieces of the puzzle are here, and I don't want to hear that song and dance about how you can't win at Minnesota. We're going to rally the troops and get this to be like Nebraska, where the first thing in your will is your football tickets."

NORTHWESTERN

Coach: Bary Barnett (first year at Northwestern; 8-11-1 overall, 2 years) 1991 record: 3-8. Big Ten: 2-6/T8th

1991 resents 3-8. Big Ten: 2-6/18th.
Key losses: Darryl Ashmore, OT; Mark Benson, WR; Marton Collins, S; Eric Dixon, RB; Dan Freveletti, NG; Stan Holsen, OT; Thomas Homco, LB; Dwight James, DB; Ed Sutter, LB/P; Brian Tichy, OG; David Woollard, C; Curt Zipfel, FB.
Starters returalty: Offease [4]; David Cross, TE, 6-6/244, Sr.; Lee Bissendaner, WR, 5-9/173, Jr.; Pat Norton, G, 6-3/282, Sr.; Lee Williams, QB, 5-11/218, Sr Brisses [8]; Frank Routeaur, T. 6-5/288

218. Sr. Dafrass [B]: Frank Boudreaux, T. 6-5/268. Sr.; Jason Cunningham, LB, 6-4/241, Sr.; John Hallebusch, T. 6-3/279, Jr.; Willie Lindsey, CB, 5-9/177, Sr.; Stave Ostrowski, LB, 5-11/215, Jr.; Anthony Purkett, CB, 5-8/159, Sr. Klekers [1]:

Anthony Purkett, CB, 5-8/159, Sr. Klekers [1]: Brian Leahy, K, 5-8/168, Jr.
Clair key rituruse: Tom Christlan, LB, Jr.; Greg Gill, DB, Sr.; Mike Golarz, LB, Sr.; Dennis Lundy, RB, Soph.; Luther Morris, WR, Soph.; John Newton, DB, Jr. (RS/knea); Matt O'Dwyer, OB, Jr.; Jeff Pietrowski, OB, Sr. (RS/knea); Rodney Ray, WR, Soph.; Stave Shine, LB, Sr.; Terry Smith; RB, Sr.
Top asweamers: Ryan Padgett, OL, Fr.; Tyler Platt, RB, Fr.; Joe Reiff, DL, Fr.; Jason Wendland, OL, Fr. Schedule: Notre Dame (at Chicago); Sept. 5; at Boston College, Sept. 12; at Stanford, Sept. 19; at Purdue, Oct. 3; Indiana, Oct. 10; at Ohio State, Oct. 17; at Illinois, Oct. 24; Michigan State, Oct. 31; Michigan, Nov. 7; at Iowa, Nov. 14; Wisconsin, Nov. 7;

filekerne: Wildcats: 8lie: Evanston, III.

Outlook: New Coach Gary Barnett helped turn around Colorado's program as an assistant, and now he believes he can do the same at Northwestern. The Wildcats last year managed three wins, including one over Illinois, which is considered good by Northwestern standards. But it wasn't good enough for Francis Peay to keep his job.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Len Williams has thrown more touchdowns than interceptions in both his seasons as a starter. He is a high-percentage passer and possesses the necessary scrambling skills to make up for his overmatched line.

Offensive weaknesses: Only one starter returns up front, and he missed spring practice with an injured shoulder.

Defensive strengths: Cornerback Willie Lindsey led the Big Ten in interceptions with seven and is a good cover man, but he seldom gets the chance to show it because teams throw away from him.

Defensive weaknesses: The loss of fouryear starter Ed Sutter at linebacker leaves an inviting hole for opponents to run through.

Special teams: Brian Leahy showed promise with a 46-yard field goal in Northwestern's win at Michigan State. Sutter's punting will be missed. A kickreturn threat would be nice, considering the Wildcats falled to run back any of their 41 returns longer than 29 yards. Key to success: Keeping the Wildcats upbeat during a rebuilding year in which they are likely to get hammered. Sure sign of trouble: If the alumni begin grumbling during the first four weeks of the season because the Wildcats are playing on the road.

Coach Gary Barnett says: "I'm concerned with the future, not the past."

Ascending: Purdue and Wisconsin. Purdue's four wins doubled its total of the previous season. If not for woeful field-goal kicking, the Boilermakers could have gone 6-5 and reached their first bowl since 1984. The Badgers'

Best offensive line:

Matt Pike, Purdue

Bost wide receivers:

Best clutch receiver:

Best defensive line:

Michigan

John Wright, Illinois

Bost offensive backfleld:

Bost backup quarterback:

Michigan

Michigan

five victories were their best since 1985, and seasonending wins over Minnesota and Northwestern allow them to enter a season on a winning streak for the first time since 1983.

Descending: Ohio State. John Cooper has aged noticeably in four years in Columbus. His 2-12-1

record against ranked teams has something to do with that, particularly since Earle Bruce was 13-12-1 against ranked opponents. Cooper's worry lines don't figure to go away with an unsettled quarterback situation and road games at Syracuse, Michigan State, Iowa and Indiana.

Nightmare schedule: Iowa. The Hawkeyes outscored their three nonconference opponents, 140-27, last year. But in 1992, Iowa plays North Carolina State in the Kickoff Classic, Miami (Fla.) at home and Colorado on the road. Iowa must travel to Michigan and Illinois in league play.

Dream schedule: Indiana. The Hoosiers have a comfortable preconference slate, clashing with Miami of Ohio, Kentucky and Missouri. Indiana opens the Big Ten against Michigan State and Northwestern, plus it plays Michigan, Iowa and Ohio State at home.

Best matchup of year: Indiana at Purdue, November 21. Both teams could be 5-5 and playing for the same bowl bid. Indiana had a postseason bid locked up in 1989 if it beat Purdue, but the Hoosiers lost, 15-14, and spent the holidays at home. A Purdue win last year at Indiana would have knocked the Hoosiers out of the Copper Bowl, but the Boilermakers missed four field goals and lost, 24-22.

Worst matchup of the year: Notre Dame vs. Northwestern, September 5 at Chicago. The Wildcats have agreed to play both their "home" games in this four-year series at Soldier Field. Under that arrangement, the Dyche Stadium record for most lopsided loss will get no worse than Iowa's 64-0 win

Shocker of the year: Wisconsin over Ohio State, October 3 in Camp Randall Stadium. Ohio State has won the last four games in this series, so fans probably have forgotten how Bruce's teams used to struggle against Wisconsin. Entering this game, the Badgers probably will be 2-1 and on a twogame winning streak, while Ohio State probably will be 2-1 and reeling from a blowout loss at Syracuse.

HONOR ROLL

Best-hitting defensive lineman: Jeff Zgonina, Purdue Best linebackers: Michigan Best-kittleg linsbacker: Dana Howard, Illinois Rest secondary: Ohio State Best-hitting defensive back: Corwin Brown, Michigan Best kicking game:

Best kick-coverage units: Wisconsin Best coaching staff: lowa Best coach: Jim Colletto, Purdue Bost Heisman candidate: Tico Duckett, Michigan State Best pro prospect: Robert Smith, Ohio State

Bowl bound: Michigan, Iowa, Ohio State and Michigan State are Jocks. Indiana, Purdue, Wisconsin and Illinois have a chance.

Biggest shoes to fill: Vaughn Dunbar's. Indiana hopes it's as lucky as it

> was two years ago, when Dunbar stepped into the void left by Anthony Thompson. Now Dunbar and his 2,923 rushing yards are gone, leaving sophomore Brett Law or freshman Sean Glover to fill in.

Most underrated player: Either John Wright at Illinois or Brian Stablein at

Ohio State. Neither flashes the breakaway speed everyone wants in a wide receiver, but both offer precise patterns, unfailing hands and an uncanny knack for key third-down catches.

Impact newcomers: Sean Glover, TB. Indiana, Fr. (RS); Alfie Hill, OT, Purdue, Fr. (RS); Predrag Jones, OT, Illinois, Fr. (RS); Chris Moore, RB, Illinois, Fr.; Craig Powell, LB, Ohio State, Fr. (RS): Vito Speciale, K. Purdue, Fr. (RS); Korey Stringer, OT, Ohio State, Fr.; Amani Toomer, WR, Michigan, Fr.; Trent Zenkewicz, DT, Michigan, Fr. (RS).

Coach of the year: Barry Alvarez, Wisconsin. He's already making his rivals nervous with his recruiting success, and now that anxiety carries over to the field, where the Badgers no longer will be a pushover.

Coach on the hot seat: Cooper, Ohio State. Four straight losses to both Michigan and Illinois and three straight bowl defeats make Cooper's longevity in Columbus tenuous, despite the three-year contract extension he was promised last season.

Best bets: Indiana will start fast and finish slow. The Hoosiers are 23-3-2 in their first four games over the last seven seasons. But from the fifth game on over that same span, they are 11 games under .500. . . . Michigan State will start slow and finish fast. The Spartans are 3-11-1 in games preceding their Big Ten opener over the last five years. They have gone to bowls four of those seasons. Tyrone Wheatley will become

Michigan's best running back. Odds and ends: Illinois is the first Big Ten team other than Michigan to defeat Ohio State four straight times. ... Northwestern's wins over Michigan State and Illinois last year marked the Wildcats' first two-game winning streak since 1986, when they also beat the Spartans and Illini.

—BRUCE HOOLEY

RETURNING LEADERS

Restling: Tico Duckett, Michigan State, 109.5 yds./game (272 att., 1,204 yds., 5 TDs, 4.4 Passing efficiency: Elvis Grbac, Michigan, 169.1 rating pts. (228 att., 152 comp., 1,955 yds., 24 TDs).

Total offesse: Jason Verduzco, Illinois, 252.8

Illinois

yds./game (-44 yds. rushing, 2,825 yds. passing, 2,781 total yds.). Reselving: Thomas Lewis, Indiana, 3.5 rec./ game (39 rec., 581 yds., 6 TOs, 14.9 avg.). Scoring: Trent Green, Indiana, 6 pts./game (11 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 66 pts.).

Punting: Forry Wells, Illinois, 38.6 avg. (48 punts, 1,852 yds.).

Pust returns: Brian Stablein, Ohio State, 8.6 avg. (18 att., 154 yds., 0 TDs). Kickeli returns: Harold Jasper, lowa, 20.6 avg.

(16 att., 330 yds., 0 TDs). Field goals: Scott Bonnell, Indiana, 1.1 FG/

game (12/16 FGs, 75%). Interceptions: Willie Lindsey, Northwestern, .64 Int./game (7 int., 52 yds., 0 TDs).



Top gun: Illinois' Jason Verduzco aims to repeat as the Big Ten's total offense leader.

Off-season changes leave Big West with new look

By MIKE DIGIOVANNA Los Angeles Times

ost football fans relish the hardhitting action on the field. But for Big West Conference aficionados, the action off the field at times can provide more excitement.

After the 1991 season ended, Terry Shea and Ron Turner switched positions, with Shea taking Turner's job as Stanford offensive coordinator and Turner taking Shea's job as head coach of San Jose State, the favorite to win the league crown in '92.

Chuck Shelton resigned under pressure at Utah State. It seems a few Aggie boosters got tired of Shelton's teams losing to schools like Nebraska, Oklahoma and Brigham Young. The nerve of the guy, huh?

But Shelton landed at Pacific, where he replaced Walt Harris, who left to become the New York Jets quarterbacks coach. Shelton's arrival in Stockton has triggered rumors that Pacific, which ranked eighth in the nation by scoring 36.3 points per game last year, might actually play some defense this season. In 1991, the Tigers ranked last in Division I-A in scoring defense, allowing a whopping 40.1 points per game.

Former Arkansas offensive coordinator Charlie Weatherbie replaced Shelton at Utah State and should have the Aggies in contention for the conference title.

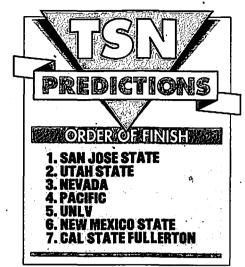
There's also a new member in the Big West. Former Division I-AA power Nevada replaces Fresno State, which left the Big West to join the more prestigious Western Athletic Conference after winning six league titles.

Fresno State's departure also ended the Big West's relationship with the California Raisin Bowl, which pitted the Big West champ against the Mid-American Conference champ on the Bulldogs' home field. The Big West and Mid-American champs now will face off in the new Las Vegas Bowl which will be played at UNLV's stadium.

Aside from Fresno State leaving the league, Long Beach State decided to abandon its football program. Plagued by a lack of attendance and strapped for cash, the school may resurrect its program on a smaller scale in the future.

It's rumored that Cal State Fullerton may follow Long Beach State's lead and disband its football program after the '92 season. But even if the Titans leave, the Big West will add former I-A independents Southwestern Louisiana, Louisiana Tech, Northern Illinois and Arkansas State to its ranks in 1993. There's even talk of expanding to 12 schools and forming two six-team divisions in the future.

But change is nothing new in the Big West.



SAN JOSE STATE

Coach: Ron Turner (first year as head coach). 1991 record: 6-4-1. Big West: 6-1/T1st. Key losses: Maceo Barbosa, TB; David Blakes, WR; Doug Calcagno, LB; Chris Clarke, LB; Heshimu Colar, S; Jeff Greeney, LB; Leon Hawthorne, FB; Peni losefa, OT: Byron Jackson, WR: Robbie Miller. OT: Freddle Smith, CB; Simon Vacifi, DT; Matt Veatch, QB; Tedd Whitehurst, P.

Starters returning: Offense (5): Alten Faletoi, G, 6-1/264, Sr.; Mike Fortino, G, 8-3/265, Jr.; Travis



Special Spartan: Players like strong safety Anthony Washington give San Jose State a formidable secondary.

Peterson, G. 6-2/264, Sr.; Rich Sarfatte, TE, 6-3/237, Sr.; Nick Trammer, C. 6-2/254, Sr. Butess (5): Raymond Bowles, LB, 6-2/215, Sr.; Dee Grayer, CB, 6-0/185, Soph.; Marty, Lyon, T. 6-1/252, Sr.; Kevin O'Connell, NG, 6-1/260, Sr.; Anthony Washington, S. 5-10/207, Sr. Kickers (1): Joe Nedney, K. 6-5/195, Soph.
Other key returness: Chad Carpenter, DT, Sr.; Jimmy Davis, LB, Soph.; Shon Ellerbe, TB, Sr.; Elliott Franklin, CB, Jr.; Jeff Garcia, QB, Jr.; Troy Jensen, S. Jr.; Donalt Lindsey, TB, Soph.; Phil Lobsinger, NG, Sr.; Leo Myhre, P, Jr., (RS/ande); Todd Ranney, OT, Sr.; Jerry Reese, WR, Soph.; John Thompson, FB, Sr. Peterson, 6, 6-2/264, Sr.; Rich Sarlatte, TE, 6-3/

son, FB, Sr.

Son, PB, St.

Top processors: Nathan Dupree, TB, Jr. (JC); Kareeb Harbin, LB, Jr. (JC); Reuben Johnson, OT, Jr.
(JC); Jason Lucky, WR, Jr. (JC); Woon Park, LB,
Jr. (JC); Jason Rose, DT, Jr. (JC); Ronnie Scott,
RB, Jr. (JC); Jimmy Singleton, LB, Jr. (JC);
Dawalne Williams, WR, Fr. (RS)

Severale: At California, Sept. 5; at Minnesota, Sept. 12; Southwestern Louislana, Sept. 19; at Stanford, Sept. 26; at Wyoming, Oct. 3; Cal State Fullerton, Oct. 10; at Utah State, Oct. 24; at UNLY, Oct. 31; Nevada, Nov. 7; at Pacific, Nov. 14; New Mexico State, Nov.21.

Nickname: Spartans. Site: San Jose, Calif.

Outlook: There are some gaping holes to fill, most notably at receiver, but the Spartans have enough talent to win their third consecutive conference

Offensive strengths: Versatile quarterback Jeff Garcia can beat you with the long and short pass and the run. A veteran line, headed by guard Alten Faletoi and center Nick Trammer, should give Garcia plenty of time to become acquainted with his new receivers.

Offensive weaknesses: A well-tuned passing game has been San Jose State's forte, but returning players account for only 13 of the 211 receptions from 1991. Defensive strengths: The Spartans have

a trio of animals at linebacker in Raymond Bowles, Jimmy Davis and junior college transfer Jimmy Singleton and a solid front featuring noseguard Kevin O'Connell and tackle Marty Lyon.

Defensive weaknesses: You can't classify a secondary with strong safety Anthony Washington and cornerback Dee Grayer as weak, but San Jose won't find a free safety who lives up to former all-conference performer Heshimu Colar's standards.

Special teams: Joe Nedney is an adequate kicker, but the punting was inconsistent in spring drills. Nathan Dupree and Ronnie Scott give the Spartans two explosive return men.

Key to success: If the new receivers and running backs mature, the Spartan offense shouldn't miss a beat.

Sure sign of trouble: If the receivers drop balls or have trouble picking up timing patterns. That could throw the whole offense out of whack.

Coach Ron Turner says: "Our receivers have some ability, and in time they'll be good. My biggest concern is that they'll do the wrong things early. That's the history of young receivers."



ALL-BIG

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Rvan Benjamin, **RB.** Pacific

DEFENSE



Raymond Bowles, LB, San Jose State

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Abu Wilson, RB, Utah State DEFENSE:

Jimmy Singleton, LB, San Jose State

FIRST TEAM **OFFENSE**

			-
Pos.	Name, School	HL/Wt.	Class
WR	BRYAN REEVES, Nevada	5-11/185	Jr.
WR	AARON TURNER, Pacific	5-11/177	Sr.
TE	TODO CUTLER, New Mexico State	6-4/236	Sr.
T	GREG BISHOP, Pacific	6-6/264	Sr.
T	SHAHRIAR POURDANESH, Nevada	6-7/280	Sr.
C	WARREN BOWERS, Utah State	6-3/266	Sr.
G	ALTEN FALETOI, San Jose State	6-1/264	Sr.
G	TROY SIENKIEWICZ, New Mex. St.	6-4/277	Soph.
QB	TROY KOPP, Pacific	6-2/200	Sr.
R8	RYAN BENJAMIN, Pacific	5-7/174	Sr.
RB	ARTHUR DAVIS, Cal State Full.	5-10/180	Sr.
	PERFFICE		·

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	KL/WL	Class
DL	SAM AUSTRINO, New Mexico St.	6-1/280	Sr.
DL	JOE CASPERS, Nevada	6-7/275	Sr.
DL	JOE JACOBS, Utah State	6-4/265	Sr.
LB	RAYMOND BOWLES, San Jose St.	6-2/215	Sr.
LB	JIMMY SINGLETON, San Jose St.	6-2/225	Jr.
LB	MIKE SMALLS, UNLY	6-2/235	Sr.
LB	JERMAINE YOUNGER, Utah State	6-0/252	Jr.
DB	FOREY DUCKETT, Nevada	6-4/190	Sr.
DB	DAMON SMITH, Utah State	5-10/163	Jr.
DB	QUINTON TEZENO, New Mexico St.	5-11/200	Sr.
DB		5-10/207	Sr.
	CDECIALICTO		

SPECIALISTS

PK	Name, School JOE NEDNEY, San Jose State BRIAN PARVIN, UNLV	HL/WL 6-5/195 · 5-10/165	

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

03.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
٧R	HENRY BAILEY, UNLV	5-9/180	Soph.
٧R	FRED MONTGOMERY, N.M. State	6-0/189	Sr.
TE	RICH SARLATTE, San Jose State	6-3/237	Sr.
Ţ	JACESON MAUGHAN, Utah State	6-4/284	Jr.
T	JERRY REYNOLDS, UNLV	6-6/300	Jr.
C	NICK TRAMMER, San Jose State	6-2/254	Sr.
G	GREG O'BANION, Utah State	6-4/318	Sr.
G	LONNIE PALELEI, UNLV	6-5/300	Sr.
αВ	JEFF GARCIA, San Jose State	6-1/185	Jr.
RB	SHANNON MCLEAN, UNLY	6-2/220	Soph.
RB	ABU WILSON, Utah State	6-0/195	Fr.

DEFENSE

Pas.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	KEVIN O'CONNELL, San Jose St.	6-1/260	Sr.
DL	GEORGE TUIOTI, New Mexico St.	6-5/260	Sr.
DL	KEITH WASHINGTON, UNLY	6-5/250	Soph.
LB	GRANT CARTER, Pacific	6-3/205	Sr.
LB	JIMMY DAVIS, San Jose State	6-3/236	Soph.
LB	LORENZO HAILEY, Cal State Full.	5-11/253	Sr.
LB	RUMONE HILTON, UNLV	6-0/230	Jr.
DB	ISRAEL BYRD, Utah State	6-0/180	Sr.
DB	DEE GRAYER, San Jose State	6-0/185	Soph.
DB	BROCK MARION, Nevada	6-1/185	Sr.
DB	DARRIUS WATSON, Cal State Full.	6-0/170	Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Hame, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
PK	SEAN JONES, Utah State	6-0/179	Sr.
Ρ	DOUG BEACH, Utah State	5-11/175	Sr.

UTAH STATE

Couch: Charlie Weatherble (first year as head

coach).
1991 recerd: 5-6. Big West: 5-2/3rd.
Key losses: Riusty Carlsen, P; Greg Davis, LB; Ron Edwards, CB; Roger Grant, TB; Tracey Jenkins, FL; Ron Lopez; OB; Del Lyles, LB; Matt Martinez, LB; Rod Moore, SE; Kevin Rice, TE; Charlle Smith; OB; Toby Tyler, S; Rob VanDePol, NG.

Toby Tyter, S. Rob VanDePol, NG. Starters returning: Offices [5]: Warren Bowers, C, 6-3/266, Sr.; Brian Funk, T, 6-4/267, Sr.; Jaceson Maughan, T, 6-4/284, Jr.; Joe Moore, 8, 6-1/296, Sr.; Chad Tigert, FB, 6-0/211, Sr. Datesse [5]: Israel Byrd, CB, 6-0/180, Sr.; Joe Jacobs, T, 6-4/265, Sr.; Steve Neeleman, T, 6-4/246, Sr.; Stephen Robinson, LB, 6-4/245, Sr.; Damon Smith, S, 5-10/183, Jr. Kiekers [1]: Doug Beach, K/P, 5-11/176, Sr.

Other key returnees: Jed DeVries, DT, Jr.; Willie Jackson, LB. Soph.; Mark Johnson; NG, Sr.; Sean Jones, K, Sr.; Greg O'Banlon, OG, Sr.; Jim Ray, WR, Jr.; Donald Toomer, CB. Soph.; Paul Trette, FB, Jr.; Greg Watts, FL, Sr.; Jermaine Younger, LB, Jr.

Greg Watts, FL, Sr.; Jermaine Younger, LB, Jr. (JC); Nechael Coe, DB, Jr. (JC); Dean Grosfeld, OB, Jr. (JC); Mike Lee, WR, Jr. (JC); Kelvin Poindexter, RB, Jr. (JC); Aubrey Thompson, WR, Jr. (JC); Abu Wilson, RB, Fr. (RS); Sebsdule: At Arizona, Sept. 5; Utah, Sept. 12; at Baylor, Sept. 19; New Mexico State, Sept. 26; at Brigham Young, Oct. 2; Kansas State, Oct. 17; San Jose State, Oct. 24; at Cal State Fullerton, Oct. 31; MIX V. Mov. 7; at New de Nov. 14; at Pacific Nov.

UNLV, Nov. 7; at Nevada, Nov. 14; at Pacific, Nov.

Nickseme: Aggles. Bite: Logan, Utah.

Outlook: Unlike last fall, the Aggies' September itinerary does not include trips to Oklahoma or Nebraska, so they should be in better shape, physically and emotionally, to make a run at the Big West title this season.

Offensive strengths: Four starters-

center Warren Bowers, guard Joe Moore and tackles Jaceson Maughan and Brian Funk—return from a line that didn't allow a sack against Nebraska or Oklahoma last season.

Offensive weaknesses: Inexperience abounds at all the skill positions, and the Aggies still hadn't settled on a starting quarterback after spring drills.

Defensive strengths: Free safety Damon Smith and cornerback Israel Byrd are two reasons why the Aggies will have one of the conference's best secondaries. Jermaine Younger should emerge as a top-flight linebacker.

Defensive weaknesses: Hard-hitting tackle Joe Jacobs returns, but as a unit, the line needs to become more physical. A good pass rush is essential in the Big West.

Special teams: The Aggies have the rare luxury of possessing two kickers they can count on: Sean Jones and Doug Beach, Beach will handle kickoffs and punts, while Jones will kick field goals and extra points.

Keys to success: Solid play at the quarterback position and stellar play from redshirt freshman running back Abu Wilson. Fans in Logan expect him to be every bit as good as Roger Grant.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Aggies' passing game falters and opponents gang up on the run. Even the best offensive line can't block every player.

Coach Charlie Weatherbie says: "We're gonna have a wide-open offense and a come-and-get-you defense. I think we'll be a Big West contender."

NEVADA

Ceach: Chris Ault (138-53-1, 16 years) 1991 record: 12-1 (including 1-1 in I-AA playoffs). Big Sky: 8-0/1st.

Key losses: Tony Amantia, LB; Mitch Baker, C; Scott Benning, TE; George Buddy, DT; Matt Clafton, LB; Mark Drahos, DE; Tony Edwards, OT; Nick Harker, LB; Joe King, WR; Alan Maxwell, OG; Reggie Rob-inson, S; Mike Rogers, DT; Rick Schwendinger, K/ P; Tom Werbeckes, OG.

P; Tom Werbeckes, O6.
Starters returning: Offices (5): Fred Gattlin, QB, 6-2/
180, Sr.; Zeke Moore, RB, 6-2/205, Jr.; Shahriar Pourdanesh, T, 6-7/280, Sr.; Bryan Reeves, WR, 5-11/185, Jr.; Chris Singleton, WR, 6-2/200, Jr.
Utieze (5): Joe Caspers, T, 6-7/275, Sr.; Forey Duckett, CB, 6-4/190, Sr.; Andre Howard, E, 6-2/
215, Sr.; Xavier Kairy, S; 6-3/190, Sr.; Brock Marion, CB, 6-1/185; Sr. Kleiere: None.
Other key returness: Jason Frierson, RB, Sr. (RS/
kree): Destric Holmes: RB, Sonb. Chris Vareae

knee); Dedric Holmes, RB, Soph.; Chris Vargas,

Top newcomers: Kevin Davis, C, Jr. (JC); Dan Led-Top REMCORDER: Kevin Davis, C. Jr. (JG); Dan Ledlieft, LB, Jr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Jelani
Lewis, DB, Fr. (RS); Damon Lynch, RB, Fr. (RS);
Lashante Parker; RB, Jr. (JG); Lamonte Porter,
LB, Fr. (RS); Tom Tanksley, DL, Jr. (JG); Cornel
West, WR, Fr. (RS).
Sekzdele: At Wyoming, Sept. 5; Pacific, Sept. 12;
McNeese State, Sept. 19; at Tulane, Sept. 26; at Cal
State Fullerton, Oct. 3; at UNLY, Oct. 17; New Mexico State, Oct. 24; Weber State, Oct. 31; at San
Jose State, Nov. 7; Utah State, Nov. 14; Texas
Southern, Nov. 21.

Southern, Nov. 21. Sile: Reno. Nev.

Outlook: Don't be fooled by the fact Nevada is coming from the I-AA ranks. The Wolf Pack has whipped many Big West teams in recent years, including a 50-8 thrashing of UNLV last season. Most experts expect Nevada to contend for the title immediately.

Offensive strengths: What many confer-

ence teams lack—experience at the skill positions-Nevada possesses. Quarterbacks Fred Gatlin and Chris Vargas, running backs Dedric Holmes and Zeke Moore and receivers Bryan Reeves and Chris Singleton lead a potent attack.

Offensive weaknesses: Tackle Shahriar Pourdanesh is as good as any Big West lineman, but the rest of the Wolf Pack front will be new and untested.

Defensive strengths: Cornerback Forey Duckett is one of the best defensive backs on the West Coast. With Brock Marion at the other corner and Xavier Kairy at free safety, there isn't much to pick on.

Defensive weaknesses: Nevada is thin at linebacker and on the line. With Wyoming and Pacific leading off the 1992 schedule, there's little room for error at these positions.

Special teams: The Wolf Pack lost its punter and place-kicker from 1991, but Reeves is an excellent return man.

Keys to success: Line play on offense and defense. If Nevada can develop some depth on the offensive line, its skill-position players should carry the offense. A strong defensive line would make foes play to the Wolf Pack's defensive strength, the secondary.

Sure sign of trouble: A few injuries on the offensive or defensive lines could turn the Wolf Pack depth chart into a depth charge.

Coach Chris Ault says: "Regardless of what people say, it's a big difference going from I-AA to I-A. Last year's team could have challenged for the (Big West) title, but losing so many players will make it tough. Still, this is the most exciting thing to happen here since Bally's.'

PACIFIC

Coach: Chuck Shelton (first year; 66-98-1 overall. 16 seasons)

1991 record: 5-7. Big West: 4-3/4th. Key losses: Chris Baus, OS; Jason Edwards, WR; Thor Harrison, OT; Daryl Hobbs, WR; Ron Papa-zian, LB; Matt Volpe, LB.

Thor Harrison, OT; Daryl Hobbs, WR; Ron Papazian, LB; Matt Volpe LB;
Sartura returning: Origine (7)::Ryan Benjamin, RB,
5-7/174, Sr.; Greg Bishop, T, 6-6/264, Sr.; Troy
Kopp, QB, 6-2/200; Sr.; David Parris, G, 6-1/250,
Sr.; Randy Pauletto, C, 6-3/245; Sr.; Aaron Turner,
WR, 5-11/177, Sr.; Kale, Wederneyer, WR, 5-10/
102, Sr.; Betree (9): Eric Bengtson, T, 6-3/250,
Sr.; Grant Carter, LB, 6-3/205, Sr.; Darius Cunnigan, CB, 5-9/178, Soph.; Dimitri Gazelas, S, 510/165, Jr.; David Karthauser, NT, 6-2/205, Jr.;
Shawn Price, T (nowed from LB); 6-3/241, Sr.;
Jeff Russell, S, 6-0/175, Soph.; Duane Thomas,
CB, 5-11/170, Soph.; Jason, Vasconaz, LB, 5-10/
208, Soph Kickers (2): Eddie Austerman, K, 6-0/
152, Sr.; Jason Schouten, P, 6-4/195, Jr.;
Olber key retursees: Jamil Anderson, LB, Soph.;
Jessle Campbell, RB, Jr.; Kenny Chapman, S, Soph.
(RS/elbow); Daye Henigan, OB, Jr.; Steve Mehl,
RB, Jr.; Darrick Miller, WR, Sr.; Jason Miller, DT,
Sr.; Peter Miller, LB, Sr. (RS/shoulder): Brett
Moten, WR, Soph.; Leo Molly, OT, Soph.; Matt Nicholls, O6, Soph. (RS/shoulder).
Top newsenzer: Ricky Bragg, S, Fr. (RS); Raymond
Braggs, WR, Jr. (JC); Marton Hendrix, RB, Fr.;
Kevin Mullens, CB, Jr. (JC); Daryl Rogers, LB, Jr.
(RS); Tim Turiavuki, NT, Fr. (RS/leg); Dan Weldon, OT, Fr. (transfer/Long Beach State),
Schotch: Fresno State, Sept. 19, UNLY: Oct. 3; at Arizona State, Oct. 10; at New Mexico State, Oct. 17;

at Washington, Oct. 24; Cal State Fullerton, Nov. 7; San Jose State, Nov. 14; Utah State, Nov. 21. Mickeyne: Tigers. Site: Stockton, Calif.

Outlook: Tiger offensive players again will top the conference's individual statistic charts, but Pacific's defense, though improved, still is not good enough to lift the Tigers to the top of the standings.

Offensive strengths: The Tigers have three of the most explosive offensive players on the West Coast-quarterback Troy Kopp, running back Ryan Benjamin and receiver Aaron Turneras well as a superior tackle in Greg-Bishop.

Offensive weaknesses: Benjamin is a quick, versatile back who can break big plays running or receiving, but Pacific will have trouble in short-yardage situations. There isn't much depth at receiver.

Defensive strengths: Overall team quickness and the perimeter play of tackle Shawn Price and linebacker Grant Carter. Those are two of the reasons why Pacific is switching from a four- to a five-man front.

Defensive weaknesses: Size. The Tigers' average weight along the line would be good—if the players were linebackers. Hence, Pacific may not be physical enough to stop stronger opponents.

Special teams: Kicker Eddie Ausherman and punter Jason Schouten must improve on last year's performances. Benjamin and Turner can be dangerous return men.

Keys to success: Defensive development and consistent special-teams play. The Tigers don't need to be the Monsters of the Midway on defense. They just need to give the offense a chance to outscore teams.

Sure sign of trouble: If more physical offensive teams are able to manhandle the Pacific defense, control the ball and keep the Tiger offense off the field.

Coach Chuck Shelton says: "The kids work hard, they're tough, but they're not that big. We're trying to come up with a defensive scheme that will allow us to play with the body sizes we have."

UNLV

Corch: Ulm Strong (8-14, 2 years). 1891 record: 4-7/Big West: 2-5/T5th. Key Josses: Derek Black, FB: Hunkle Cooper, WB: Key losses: Derek Black, FB; Hunkle Cooper, WR; David Efferson, OB; Carlton Johnson, S; Elgin Lotton, DT; Chuck Reed, DT; Derek Stott, OB. Starter returning: Offesse (81: Henry Balley, RB/WR, 5-9/180, Soph.; John Hurley, T, 6-5/275, Sr.; Jon Jones, TE, 6-4/255, Sr.; Howard McGowan, C, 6-4/260, Soph.; Lonnie Palelei, G, 8-5/300, Sr.; erry Reynolds, T, 6-6/300, Jr.; Doug Roper, G, 6-2/260, Jr.; Demond Thompkins, WR, 5-11/185, Soph. Defense [7]: Rumone Hilton, LB, 6-0/230, Jr.; Clarence Mack, CB, 6-0/185, Soph.; Andy Marrone; LB, 6-4/210, Jr.; Tom Riley, E, 6-3/245, Sr.; Tryrone Scott, S, 6-0/200, Soph.; Mike Smalls, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Keith Washington, E, 6-5/250, Soph.; Kickers [2]: Nick Garritano, K, 6-0/240; Soph.; Brian Parvin, P, 5-10/165, Sr.; Other key, returners: Auntwan Armstrong, CB, Jr.; Other key returness: Auntwan Armstrong, CB, Jr.;

Kenneth Crump, TE, Jr.; Daemon Keener, WR, Soph. (RS/collarbone); John Ma'ae, OB/WR, Jr.; Brian Massey, OB, Soph.; Rodney Mazzon, S, Soph.; Shannon McLean, FB, Soph.; Robble Merrison, OG/ OT, Soph.; Reeves Stellino, S/LB, Sr.; Jabbar Tho-mas, RB, Soph.; Reese Thomas, LB, Jr.; Matt Wills, RB, Seph.; Reeves Thomas, LB, Jr.; Matt Wills, RB. Scoh.

RB, Soph.

Top seweomers: Rossle Johnson, DE, Fr. (RS):
Omar Love, RB, Fr., Jason Medicck, LB, Jr. (JC):
Donnell Porter, S, Jr. (JC); Jeff Rodgers, LB, Jr.
(JC): Erik Simien, LB, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame):
Bob Stockham, DB, Jr. (JC); William (Tiger)
Townes, DT, Jr. (JC):
Schedule: Toxas-El Paso, Sept. 12; Northern Arizona, Sept. 18; at Oregon, Sept. 26; at Pacific, Oct.
3; at New Mexico State, Oct. 10; Novada, Oct. 17; at
Hawall, Oct. 24; San Jose State, Oct. 31; at Utah
State, Nov. 7; Montana State, Nov. 21; Cal State

State, Nov. 7; Montana State, Nov. 21; Cal State Fullerton, Nov. 28. Mickeama: Rebels.

Site: Las Vegas.

Outlook: The Rebels were young last season. They started six freshmen in 1991 and will boast a predominantly sophomore lineup in 1992. But UNLV figures to improve with experience.

Offensive strengths: All five starters, including guard Lonnie Palelei and tackles Jerry Reynolds and John Hurley, return on the line, giving UNLV a good foundation on which to build.

Offensive weaknesses: Inexperience at quarterback. The Rebels have an upand-coming receiver in Henry Bailey. Now they must find a passer who can get him the ball consistently.

Defensive strengths: Starting ends Keith Washington and Tom Riley are back, and the addition of Notre Dame transfer Erik Simien should boost the linebacking corps.

Defensive weaknesses: UNLV has two good linebackers in Mike Smalls and Rumone Hilton, but beyond them, there is little depth there. And Big West offenses have been known to run linebackers ragged.

Special teams: Brian Parvin is the conference's top returning punter, and inconsistent place-kicker Nick Garritano is back. Return men Bailey and Rodney Mazion should ease the loss of Hunkie Cooper.

Keys to success: UNLV must contain quarterbacks on defense (the Rebels allowed 266 passing yards per game last season) and get consistent play from its quarterbacks.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Rebels get careless, as they did in 1991, when they committed 32 turnovers.

Coach Jim Strong says: "We had 29 players at practice my first spring, 40 my second year and 60 last spring. It's exciting, because we looked more like a football team practicing than a basketball or tennis team going to workouts."

6/NEW MEXICO ST.

Coach: Jim Hess (3-19, 2 years; 117-72-5 overall, 17 years). 1991 recerd: 2-9. Big West: 2-5/T5th Key lesses: Steve Campbell, LB; Brian Carter, LB; Loren Duniap, DE; Chad Glover, DT; Garret Henson, P; Matt Miles, C; Jimmle Mitchell, FB; George Sykes, CB.

Continued

89

Starters returning: Offense (9): Shawn Bowman, T Startura returalus Offinase [8]: Shawn-Bowman, T, 6-3/269, Sr.; Ezell Brown, SE, 5-8/161, Sr.; Todd Cutter, TE, 6-4/236, Sr.; Fred Montgomer, FL, 6-0/169, Sr.; Charles Puter, OB, 6-2/205, Sr.; Atlas Reagor, FL, 6-0/169, Sr.; Ishan Rison, T, 6-1/250, Jr.; Eric Schmierer, G, 6-4/258, Sr.; Troy Stanklewicz, G, 6-4/277, Soph. Britase [8]: Sam Austrino, T, 6-1/280, Sr.; David Barela, CB, 5-11/186, Jr.; Marc Shaw, S, 6-0/178, Sr.; Quinton Tezeno, S, 5-11/200, Sr.; George Tulott, E, 6-5/260, Sr.; Jeff VonColin, LB, 6-1/210, Sr. Klehers [1]: Jose Ortiz, K, 5-7/204, Sr.

Other key returnees: Dan Amos, K. Soph.; Chad Baum, S. Sr.; Dan Goodwin, DT, Sr.; Aaren Laing, paum, S. Sr.; Dan Goodwin, DT, Sr.; Aaron Laing, TE, Jr.; Cody Ledbetter, OB, Soph.; Tim Mauck, LB, Jr.; William McKinsey, P.; Soph.; Brian Pizula, FB, Soph.; Chris Rowser, CB, Jr.; Corey Sanchaz, LB, Sr.; Gerald Stovacek, C. Soph.; Norman Steele, DE, Sr.; Don Stowers, S., Jr.; Ray Washington, HB, Sr. (RS/knee).

(RS/knee).
Top awacmars: Montee Boulware, CB, Jr. (JC);
Bryan Duplessis, LB, Soph. (transfer/Long Beach
State); Herbert Frazier, CB, Jr. (JC); Brian Stewart, LB, Jr. (JC); Lawrence Truehill, RB, Jr. (JC);
Charles Yarrie, HB, Sr. (transfer/Long Beach
State); Michael Wall, LB, Jr. (JC).
State); Michael Wall, LB, Jr. (JC).
Statelist Weber State, Sept. 5; New Mexico, Sept.
12; at Texas-El Paso, Sept. 19; at Utah State, Sept.
26; at Kansas State, Oct. 3; UNLV. Oct. 10; Pactific,
Oct. 17; at Nevada, Oct. 24; at Arizona, Oct. 31; CatState Fullerton, Nov. 14; at San Jose State, Nov.
21.

Mickname: Agglesi Site: Las Cruces, N.M.

Outlook: The Aggies' budget is growing, their new weight room is enormous and the entire coaching staff has returned intact for the first time in 27 years. Things are looking up in Las Cruces.

Offensive strengths: Two quarterbacks with starting experience—Charles Puleri and Cody Ledbetter-have their top four receivers from 1991-Fred Montgomery, Ezell Brown, Atlas Reagor and Todd Cutler—to throw to.

Offensive weaknesses: Depth on the line. Four of five starters, including guard Troy Sienkiewicz, return, but there's a big talent drop from starters to reserves.

Defensive strengths: The secondary is as talented and deep as it's ever been with safeties Quinton Tezeno, Marc Shaw and Don Stowers and cornerbacks David Barela, Montee Boulware, Herbert Frazier and Chris Rowser.

Defensive weaknesses: Linemen Sam Austrino and George Tuioti are solid, but the Aggies will have trouble replacing linebacker Steve Campbell, the team's top tackler the last two seasons. Special teams: Aggle coaches cringe at the thought of punting and kicking, unless it's opponents who are doing it. Then, they're comfortable knowing Montgomery and Ray Washington are on the receiving end.

Key to success: Defensive backs performing up to expectations. The Aggies yielded too many long pass plays in 1991.

Sure sign of trouble: If either of the two quarterbacks is injured. No other Aggie quarterback has major-college experience.

Coach Jim Hess says: "We have more speed now than we've ever had. Before, we'd break a play wide open, it would look like a score, and we'd go for 10 yards. Now, we'll be gone. That's the big difference."



In demand: The Titans could use a few more running backs like Arthur Davis.

7/CAL STATE FULL.

Coach: Gene Murphy (59-78-1, 12 years: 74-85-1 overall, 14 years). 1991 record: 2-9. Big West: 1-6/8th.

1991 record: 2-9. Big West: 1-6/8th.
Key tosses: Tim Drevno, OG: J.C. Farrow; DT:
Michael Jones, S. Chad Lindsay, LB; Chad May, QB
(transfer/Kansas State); Teddy McMillan, LB;
Phil Nevin, K/P; Anthony Pack, WR; Kerry Reed,
WR; Terance Sullivan, LB; Reggle Yarbrough, RB.
Startur returning: Offices [8]: Robert Bedford, TE,
6-2/225, Sr.; Wally Bonnett, G, 6-4/275, Jr.; John
Cottl, T, 6-5/285, Jr.; Frank Dayls, WR, 5-10/180,
Sr.; Terrance LaCount, T, 6-3/270, Sr.; David Porter, C, 6-3/260, Sr.; Duftense [6]: Mike Allen, E, 6-2/230, Sr.; B.B. Hudson, QB, 5-9/180/Sr.; Bill Jones,
T, 6-5/245, Sr.; Michael McGulre, S, 6-1/195, Sr.;
Darrius Watson, CB, 6-0/170, Jr.; Jason Wells,
MG, 6-0/260, Sr. Kleter: None.
Gliber key referenses: Steve Danzy, RB, Sr.; Arthur

NG, 6-0/280, Sr. Klekers: None.
Other key retireses: Steve Danzy, RB, Sr.; Arthur
Davis, RB, Sr.; Daniel Garcia, OL, Sr.; Dan Godfrey,
LB, Soph.; Mike Gullo, LB, Sr.; Lorenzo Halley, LB,
Sr.; John Haynes, LB, Sr.; Andrew Hill, WR, Soph.;
Keary, Johns, LB, Jr.; Pat Lynch, WR, Sr.; Howard
McCrery, DB, Sr.; Danny Pasauli, RB, Jr.; Shambi Scott, DE, Sr.; Dan Seymour, LB, Sr.; Gary Stick,
LB, Sr.; Randy Strickland; DT, Sr.
Top newcemers: Willie Bowens, RB, Jr. (JC); Ron
Braxton, DE, Jr. (JC); Reggle Carter, RB, Soph.
(Prop 48); Tony DelNoce, OL, Fr. (RS); Quincy
Guy, OB, Soph. (Prop 48); Jermaine Hill; RB, Soph.
(Prop 48); Robert Hudson, OT, Jr. (JC); Eddie

Guy, UB, Soph. (Prop. 46); dermaine Inti, no. Soph. (Prop. 48); Robert Hudson, OT, Jr. (JC); Eddie Lua, RB, Jr. (JC); Jack Manu, QB, Jr. (JC); Mark Wilson, QB, Jr. (JC).

Setztalie: Cali State Northridge. Sept. 5; at UCLA, Sept. 12; at Georgia, Sept. 19; Sacramento State, Sept. 26; Nevada, Oct. 3; at San Jose State, Oct. 10; at Southwestern Louislana, Oct. 17; Utah State, Oct. 31; at Pacific, Nov. 7; at New Mexico State, Nov. 14; at UNLV, Nov. 28.

Nickrama: Titans Site: Fullerton, Calif.

Outlook: The Titans, who ranked last in the league in passing and total offense in 1991, have scrapped their one-back formation in favor of a run-oriented, option attack. It certainly can't hurt.

Offensive strengths: In Arthur Davis

and Danny Pasquil, Cal State Fullerton has two talented and proven running backs. But the Titans could use a few more.

Offensive weaknesses: The Titans recruited quarterbacks for their athletic ability, not passing ability. It should show in the team's final passing statistics.

Defensive strengths: With noseguard Jason Wells and inside linebackers Lorenzo Hailey, Dan Godfrey, Mike Gullo and John Haynes, opponents will have a difficult time running up the middle.

Defensive weaknesses: Depth on the line and talent in the secondary. Titan defensive backs get picked apart more than most presidential candidates.

Special teams: Punter/kicker Phil Nevin quit football to concentrate on baseball, so the Titans will be inexperienced at both positions. But better overall speed should help the kick-coverage

Keys to success: Cal State Fullerton needs to score more points. Take away a 37-36 victory over Long Beach State and the Titans averaged only 10.1 points per game last year. They also must survive back-to-back September games at UCLA and Georgia.

Sure sign of trouble: If the team suffers another bad season and generates little fan support in its new on-campus stadium. That would give administrators

more reason to drop football.

Coach Gene Murphy says: "I don't know if we have one more season, two or nine, but you can drive yourself batty worrying about things you don't have control over. We're just going to coach and play football and have fun."

Ascending: New Mexico State. In addition to the Aggies' improved facilities and expanded budget, Jim Hess, the most underrated coach in the conference, has enjoyed recruiting success in the fertile grounds of Texas and

Best offensive line:

Rast wide receivers:

New Mexico State

Bost clatch receiver:

Bast defensive line:

San Jose State

Utah State

Pacific

Southern California. That should begin to pay dividends this season.

Descending: Cal State Fullerton. How can the Titans regress from 1-11 (1990) and 2-9 (1991) seasons, you ask? By dropping to Division I-AA or dropping football completely, that's how. Those are the school's likely op-

tions following this season.

Nightmare schedule: Pacific. The Tigers open at home against Fresho State and have October nonconference games at Arizona State and defending national co-champion Washington. Good luck. Cal State Fullerton's schedule, which features consecutive September games at UCLA and Georgia, rates a close second.

Dream schedule: Nevada. We know McNeese State, Weber State and Texas Southern are not pushovers, but three non-conference home games against Division I-AA teams would look mighty inviting to the rest of the league's coaches.

Best matchup of the year: San Jose State at Utah State, October 24. The Aggies were still shellshocked from lopsided losses to Nebraska and Oklahoma when they played the Spartans in 1991 (a 23-7 loss), but they'll be ready this season.

Worst matchup of the year: Pacific at Washington, October 24. The Tigers may be rising in the Big West ranks, but they have no business playing the Huskies in Seattle-no matter how big the guarantee check.

Shocker of the year: Utah State at Pacific, November 21. The Tigers will spoil the Aggles' title hopes in the season finale.

Bowl bound: San Jose State. The Spartans should make their fifth bowl appearance in 12 years. The Big West and Mid-American champions will no longer play in the California Raisin Bowl in Fresno. Instead, the two teams will meet in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Biggest shoes to fill: Utah State running back Roger Grant's. The Aggies rushed for 1,212 yards last season, with Grant gaining 1,017 of them. Utah State doesn't expect a 1,000-yard season from redshirt freshman Abu Wilson, but he should provide his share of excitement.

Most underrated player: Jason Wells, NG, Cal State Fullerton. Great attitude, big heart, small body. The 6foot, 260-pounder moved from linebacker to noseguard last season and

held his own against many bigger, stronger players.

Impact newcomers: Nathan Dupree, TB, San Jose State, Jr. (JC); Erik Simien, LB, UNLV, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame); Jimmy Singleton, LB, San

Jose State, Jr. (JC); Tom Tanksley, DL, Nevada, Jr. (JC); Lawrence Truehill, RB, New Mexico State, Jr. (JC); Abu Wilson, RB, Utah State, Fr. (RS).

Coach of the year: Jim Hess, New Mexico State. He won't win it because the Big West usually gives the award to the coach

of the championship team. But Hess, in the eyes of several of his peers, deserves it.

Coach on the hot seat: Jim Strong, UNLV. He has had publicized run-ins with players and an administration member and has alienated some members of the media. Fourteen assistants have resigned in the last two seasons, most over philosophical differences with Strong. Attendance is down, team morale hit rock bottom at the end of 1991 and the school has a new athletic director-not exactly the best formula for job security.

Best bets: Pacific's Troy Kopp (passing), Ryan Benjamin (rushing) and Aaron Turner (receiving) will lead the league in their individual statistical categories. . . . Nevada will lead the conference in average home attendance. . . . Long Beach State will enjoy life without football so much, it won't bother bringing back its program on any level.

Odds and ends: New Mexico State's 6foot-4, 277-pound offensive guard, Troy Sienkiewicz, who had a three handicap as a high school golfer, is enrolled in the school's Professional Golf Management program. New Mexico State is one of only three schools in the country that offers such a program. . . . San Jose State's Shon Ellerbe, projected as the team's starting tailback, contracted a rare virus known as "San Joaquin Valley fever" last winter. He lost a considerable amount of weight, missed spring practice and is questionable for the season. . . . New Mexico State running back Ray Washington is an accomplished architect who has designed several homes in Nevada and California. He also enjoys doing caricatures and drawings of his teammates. . . . Ron Papazian, an allconference linebacker at Pacific in 1991, quit the team last spring.

-MIKE DIGIOVANNA

HONOR ROLL

Best-hitting defensive lineman: Joe Jacobs, Utah State Best offensive backfield: Bast linebackers: San Jose State Best beekup quarterback: Bost-hitting ligebacker: Jermaine Younger, Utah State Chris Vargas, Nevada Best secondary: Nevada Best-hitting defensive back: Aaron Turner, Pacific Quinton Tezeno, New Mexico State Best kicking game:

Utah State

Best kick-coverage units: San Jose State Best coaching staff: San Jose State Best coach: Gene Murphy, Cal State Fullerton Best Kelsman candidate: Ryan Benjamin, RB, Pacific Best pro prospect: Ryan Benjamin, RB, Pacific

RETURNING LEADERS

Resking: Ryan Benjamin, Pacific, 131.8 yds./ game (226 att., 1,581 yds., 13 TDs, 7.0 avg.). Passing efficiency: Jeff Garcia, San Jose State, 160.1 rating pts. (160 att., 99 comp., 1,519 yds., 12 TDs)

Total offense: Troy Kopp, Pacific, 307.2 yds./ game (-81 yds. rushing, 3,767 yds. passing, 3.686 total yds.).

Hacelving: Aaron Turner, Pacific, 8.4 rec./ game (92 rec., 1,604 yds., 18 TDs, 17.4 avg.). Searing: Aaron Turner, Pacific, 9.8 pts./game (18 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 108 pts.). Panting: Brian Parvin, UNLV, 41.9 avg. (48 punts, 2,013 yds.).

Punt returns: Quinton Tezeno, New Mexico State, 6.1 avg. (13 att., 79 yds., 0 TDs). Kickoff returns: Fred Montgomery, New Mexico State, 29.4 avg. (25 att., 734 yds., 1 TD). Field goals: Joe Nedney, San Jose State, 1 FG/ game (11/19 FGs, 58%).

Interceptions: Darrius Watson, Cal State Fulterton, 0.60 int./game (6 int., 17 yds., 0 TDs).



Replay? Pacific's Ryan Benjamin again could lead the Big West Conference in rushing.

Bowling Green's big year eased Blackney's pain

By JACK CARLE Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune

inning 11 games and the Mid-American Conference championship as a rookie head coach last season took a lot of Gary Blackney's time. Trying to organize a home life for his two youngest children, Kyle and Gary Jr., and visiting his ailing wife, Lauretta, in a nursing home every day took even more.

Lauretta Blackney suffered a brain aneurysm in 1986 when her husband, now the head coach at Bowling Green State, was an assistant at Ohio State. The aneurysm left her paralyzed in both legs, impaired her speech and limited her communication skills. Lauretta Blackney currently lives in a Bowling Green nursing home but is able to make occasional visits home.

"There is no question she has an awareness of what's going on," Blackney said. "I know it meant a lot to her spirits, that we had the kind of success we had."

Last season, Gary Blackney guided a team picked to finish seventh in its league to the top. In the process, he became the first MAC coach to win 11 games in his rookie year, was unanimously selected as the league's Coach of the Year and was the winningest first-year coach in the nation.

Lauretta Blackney was able to follow the Falcons' 1991 success through her husband's visits and the newspaper clippings nurses posted on a bulletin board for her. Bowling Green's on-field accomplishments certainly made life off the field easier for Blackney, who had spent the previous 21 years as an assistant coach at six different schools before getting the top job at Bowling Green in December 1990.

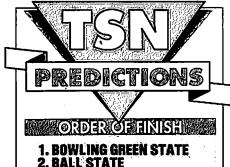
The Falcons were coming off five straight losing seasons and hadn't played in a bowl game since 1985 when Blackney was hired.

"Success helps mold your attitude," said Blackney, whose Falcons beat Fresno State, 28-21, in the California Raisin Bowl. "Going over to see Lauretta in the nursing home during the season and after it was much easier just because of how positive everything had been."

BOWLING GREEN

Cosci: Gary Blackney (11-1, 1 year).
1991 record: 11-1 (beat Fresho State in California Raisin Bowl): MAC: 8-0/1st.
Key tosses: Mike Calcagno, LB; Paul Harris, DT; Matt Kregel, OT; Brett Landman, TE; Scott Lindsey, FB; D.J. Ogilvie, LB; Mark Ross, NG; Brian Sherman, C; Nick Sims, OG; Steve Wilbourne, DE;

Starters returaling: Offines (6): Steve Bosko, G. 6-0/270, Sr.; Ronnie Redd, WR, 5-9/180, Soph.; LeRoy Smith, TB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Mark Szlacholo, WR, 6-4/205, Sr.; Erlk White, OB, 6-5/210, Sr.; Joe Wyse, T, 6-5/285, Jr. Defense [5]: Dave Bielinski, S, 6-3/



2. BALL STATE

3. MIAMI OF OHIO 4. CENTRAL MICHIGAN

5. TOLEDO

6. WESTERN MICHIGAN

7. EASTERN MICHIGAN

8. AKRON

9. OHIO UNIVERSITY

10. KENT

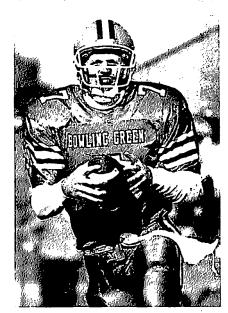
215, Sr.; Carlos Brooks, CB, 6-0/200, Sr.; Ken Burress, CB, 5-11/175, Sr.; Kevin O'Brian, LB, 6-4/235, Sr.; Vince Palko, LB, 6-1/215, Soph. Kickers (2): Rob Donahue, P. 6-2/195, Soph.; Brian Leaver, K, 5-5/160, Soph

Other tay returness: Joe Bair, S, Jr.; Curtis Collins, DL. Soph.; Bob Dudley, DL. Jr.; Clint Frazier, NG, Jr.; Norman Hammoud, OL, Soph.; Zeb Jackson, TB, Jr.; Bob Johnson, OL, Soph.; George Johnson, TB, Soph.; Artle Mangham, LB, Sr.; Brian Nartker, TS, Soph.; Artle Mangham, LB, Sr.; Brian Nartker, TS, Sc.

Top seweemers: Vito Cinquepalmi, OL, Jr. (JC); Willie Gibson, LB, Jr. (JC); Keith Hindsley, OL, Jr. (JC); Chache Leal, LB, Jr. (JC); Eric McGhea, TB,

Scholitz Westerkamp, DL, Fr. (RS). Bob Westerkamp, DL, Fr. (RS). Scholitz Western Michigan, Sept. 5; at Ohio State, Sept. 12; at Wisconsin, Sept. 19; East Carolina, Sept. 26; at Central Michigan, Oct. 3; Ohio University, Oct. 10; at Toledo, Oct. 17; at Akron, Oct. 24; Miaml of Ohio, Oct. 31; at Kent, Nov. 7; Ball State,

Mickeame: Falcons. Site: Bowling Green, O.



Lead Falcon: Erik White quarterbacks Bowling Green's innovative passing

Outlook: The Falcons won the MAC championship last season after being picked by many folks to finish near the bottom. The reason? They won all the close games. With similar breaks this season, Bowling Green could very well repeat as champ.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Erik White and wide receiver Mark Szlachcic are the focal points of an innovative passing attack. White was the MAC's Player of the Year in 1991, while Szlachcic was the most valuable player of the California Raisin Bowl.

Offensive weaknesses: There are holes on the line, which may limit White's time to throw. Four starters are gone (including the tight end), and proven replacements must be found.

Defensive strengths: The Falcons have the league's top cornerback tandem in Carlos Brooks and Ken Burress.

Defensive weaknesses: All three down linemen and linebacker Mike Calcagno, the team's top tackler (141) a year ago, are gone.

Special teams: Improvement is needed. Bowling Green kicked only seven field goals last year (in 19 attempts) and averaged fewer than 36 yards per punt.

Key to success: Finding able bodies for the offensive line.

Sure sign of trouble: White on the run. Coach Gary Blackney says: "Chemistry may have been the single biggest factor that influenced our season last year. It is an intangible factor, but we need to find that spirit of team and togetherness again.'

BALL STATE

Coach: Paul Schudel (42-34-2, 7 years).

1991 recard: 6-5. MAC: 4-4/T5th. Key losses: Carlos Barefield, DE; Charley Barth, OG; Scott Jones, TE; Cameron Lymon, FL; Travis Moore, FL; Ismael Peralta, C; Mic Roessler, OT; Troy Smith, FB; Kenny Stucker, K; Denny Thomp-

son, DT; Tim Warady, OG. Starters returning: Officese (4): Tim Christian, T, 6-**A1278. Sr.; Corey Croom, TB, 6-0/211, Sr.; Jose Munoz, T, 6-4/260, Jr.; Mike Neu, QB, 6-4/210, Jr. Defense (9): Blaine Bishop, CB, 5-9/198, Sr.; Bryant Brantgan, NG, 6-2/248, Sr.; Copatric Dartis, CB, 5-9/174, Jr.; Henry Hall, E, 6-1/230, Sr.; Malawi Hills, S, 5-11/187, Jr.; Troy Hoffer, S, 6-1/196, Sr.; Carl Kendrick, T, 6-2/254, Sr.; Mark Parris, LB, 6-1/241, Sr.; Don Stonefield, LB, 6-0/234, Sr. Klekers (1): Damon Ketter, P, 5-11/185, Sr. Sr. Kickers [1]: Damon Keller, P. 5-11/165, Sr. Char ky riserses: Jacob Goldwire, CB, Soph.; Mike LeSure, SE, Sr.; Dan Mawhorr, DT, Jr.; Erin Mc-Cray, TB, Jr.; Brian Oliver, SE, Soph.; Thomas Sewell, DE, Soph.

Top geweeners: Juan Gorman, WR, Jr. (JC); Keyon Vinegar, CL, Jr. (JC).

Schedule: At Clemson, Sept. 5; at Kansas, Sept. 12; at Kent, Sept. 19; Miami of Ohio, Sept. 28; at West-ern Michigan, Oct. 3; Eastern Michigan, Oct. 10; Akron, Oct. 17; Central Michigan, Oct. 24; at Ohio University, Oct. 31; Toledo, Nov. 7; at Bowling Green State, Nov. 14. Nickname: Cardinals.

Site: Muncle, Ind.

Outlook: Ball State finished at .500 in the MAC last season but could easily have been at the top or the bottom of the league. Four games were decided by four points or less, and its biggest league win was only six points.

Offensive strengths: Corey Croom is an all-league running back who set a school record for rushing attempts last season. Mike LeSure is arguably the MAC's best receiver.

Offensive weaknesses: Three new linemen and one tight end must be found.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Mark Parris is the best player on a unit that last year ranked 11th in the country in total defense, tied for 11th in scoring defense and was 16th best against the pass. Eight of 11 starters are back.

Defensive weaknesses: Two of the three non-returning starters were linemen. Rick Minter, Ball State's defensive coordinator the last seven years, left for the same job at Notre Dame.

Special teams: There's good and bad news. The good is that Damon Keller. who averaged 40.4 yards per punt last season, is back. The bad is that placekicker Kenny Stucker, Ball State's alltime scoring leader, is not.

Keys to success: Finding adequate replacements on both lines and at placekicker.

Sure signs of trouble: If Croom can't find running room and the defense spends too much time on the field.

Coach Paul Schudel says: "We have built a tradition at Ball State, and we hope to have that tradition of winning continue.'

MIAMI OF OHIO

Coach: Randy Walker (11-9-2, 2 years). 1991 record: 6-4-1. MAC: 4-3-1/T3rd.

Cotes: Handy Walker (11-9-2; 2 years).

1891 rescré. 6-4-1. MAC: 4-3-1/T3rd.

Key tosses: John Cannon, OG; John Healy, OT; Terry Knecht, K; Cajardo Lindsey, S; Barry Renfro, LB; Milt Stegall, SE; Jon Warderd, DE

Starter returning: Officese [8]: Lock Beachum, FB, 5-9/190, Jr.; Gordon Benning, FL, 5-10/161, Jr.; Chris Brenner, G, 6-3/264, Jr.; Terry Carter, TB, 5-7/185, Jr.; Jeff Chabot, G, 6-3/246, Sr.; Darfer, Jim Clement, QB, 6-1/200, Jr.; Mike Kreeger, T, 6-7/284, Sr.; James Patton, TE, 6-3/246, Sr. Befense [8]: Bill Atha, E, 6-3/245, Soph.; Robert Blanton, LB, 6-0/205, Jr.; Ron Carpenter, S, 6-1/185, Sr.; Thad Fidler, E, 6-1/240, Sr.; Curt McMillam, LB, 6-0/220, Sr.; Mark Staten, T, 6-6/290, Sr.; David Thomas, CB, 6-1/1778, Soph.; Shean Williams, CB, 5-6/150, Sr. Klekers [2]: Gary Layton, P, 6-1/170, Soph.; Bryan Lucas, K, 5-9/169; Sr.

Olber key returnese: Jim Bycznski, OT, Sr.; Neil Dougherty, QB, Soph.; Kevin Ellerbe, TB, Jr.; Nick Frantz, C, Jr.; Jeremy Patterson, TE, Soph.; Jason Phillips, LB, Soph.; Lakumba Wallace, TB, Sr.; David Wilson, S, Soph.

David Wilson, S. Soph.

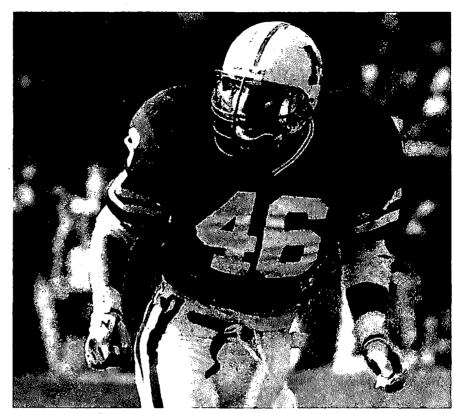
Top newcomers: Falando Ashcraft, TB, Fr.; Tremayne Banks, DB, Fr.; Reggle Bracken, LB, Fr. (RS): Scott Clemons, DT, Fr.; Matt Cravens, OL, Fr.; Kregg Creamer, TE, Fr. (RS): Bandy Hargrave, OB, Fr. (RS): Ty Kling, TB, Fr.; Detand McCullough, TB, Fr. (RS): Dennis Rusche, FB, Fr.; Chad Seltz, K, Fr. (RS): Erik Sides, OT, Fr. (RS): Bud Thacker, DB, Fr. (RS/kine).

Schedule: At West Virginia, Sept. 5; at Indiana, Sept. 12; Cincinnati, Sept. 19; at Ball State, Sept. 26; at Eastern Michigan, Oct. 3; Central Michigan, Oct. 10; at Ohio University, Oct. 17; Toledo, Oct. 24; at Bowling Green State, Oct. 31; Western Michigan. Nov. 7; Kent, Nov. 14.

Mickeeme: Redskins. Site: Oxford, O.

Outlook: After two straight years of 4-3-1 records in the league, the Redskins are ready to contend for the title. They have 18 starters returning, the most of any MAC team.

Offensive strengths: Kevin Ellerbe and



Ball hunter: Miami of Ohio's Curt McMillan, the nation's leading tackler (18.6 per game), was voted the MAC's Defensive Player of the Year.

Terry Carter form one of the best running back duos in the league. The tight end tandem of James Patton and Jeremy Patterson is the best.

Offensive weaknesses: Jim Clement, who finished last in the league in passing efficiency a year ago, must become a more consistent quarterback. The receiving corps also is questionable.

Defensive strengths: The Redskins were fifth in the nation in both total defense and scoring defense last year. Linebacker Curt McMillan, the nation's leading tackler (18.6 per game), was voted the MAC's Defensive Player of the Year. The league's best safety, Ron Carpenter, has 14 interceptions over the last two years.

Special teams: Gary Layton, a walk-on last season, will handle the punting duties. Senior Bryan Lucas figures to be challenged for his place-kicking job by redshirt freshman Chad Seitz.

Key to success: A good passing game. Sure sign of trouble: If McMillan can't fight off double-team blocks.

Coach Randy Walker says: "For us to be a championship contender, our offense has to improve and be productive."

CENTRAL MICH.

Catch: Herb Deromedi (100-43-10, 14 years). 1891 recent: 6-1-4. MAC: 3-1-4/2nd. Key Isses: Doug Adler, LB; Jeff Bender, QB; James Cooper, CB; Ken Ealy, FL; Paul Jacobson, QG; Bob Kench, SE; Darian McKinney, TE; Todd Reynolds, LB; Kevin Rich, LB; Clarence Rose, LB; Billy Smith, TB; James Wyatt, OT.

Starters returning: Offense [4]: Art Droski, C. 6-4/290, Sr.; Marty Malcolm, G. 6-5/290, Sr.; Greg

Sherwin, T, 6-5/290, Sr.; Tom Wojcik, FB, 6-1/215, Jr. Driesse (8): Richard Barker, S, 6-1/200, Jr.; Oscar Ford, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Mike Nettle, T,

Jr.; Oscar Ford, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Mike Nettle, T, 6-3/275, Sr.; Lamar Sally, T, 6-5/270, Sr.; Darrall Stinson, S, 6-3/205, Jr.; Jason Wilkie, MG, 6-3/205, Jr.; Jason Wilkie, MG, 6-3/265, Sr.; Kickurs (2): Dennis Nicholl, P; 5-11/165, Sr.; Chuck Selinger, K, 5-11/190, Jr. Oittr toy returnses: Jerremy Dunkap, TE, Soph.; Eric Johnson, TB, Soph.; Mike Kyler, LB, Jr.; Boris Martysz, S, Soph.; Darrell McCaul, OT, Jr.; Gary Rakan, LB, Sr.; Bryant Satterlee, LB, Jr.; Brad Umphrey, LB, Soph.; Scott White, FB, Sr.; Joe Youngblood, OB, Jr.

Top newschers: Brian Pruitt, TB, Soph. (RS/aca-

demics).
Schedule: At Kentucky, Sept. 5; at Michigan State,
Sept. 12; Ohlo University, Sept. 19; Toledo; Sept.
26; Bowling Green State, Oct. 3; at Miami of Ohlo,
Oct. 10; Kent, Oct. 17; at Ball State, Oct. 24; at
Akron, Oct. 31; Eastern Michigan, Nov. 7; at Western Michigan, Nov. 14.

Mickeame: Chippewas. Site: Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Outlook: The Chippewas raised some eyebrows around the nation when they beat Michigan State, 20-3, early last season. However, thanks to a MACrecord four ties, they were a secondplace team in their own league. Major question marks on offense make a repeat of last year's success unlikely.

Offensive strengths: The line should be solid with the return of starters Art Droski, Greg Sherwin and Marty Malcolm. Eric Johnson, a record setter in indoor track, could provide some thrills in the backfield.

Offensive weaknesses: The Chippewas will be hard pressed to find a replacement for Jeff Bender, a four-year starter at quarterback, and standout running back Billy Smith.

TEN

Preseason all-mid-american team

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Mark Szlachcic, WR, Bowling Green

DEFENSE



Curt McMillan, LB, Miami of Ohio

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Vito Cinquepalmi, OL, Bowling Green DEFENSE:

Benny King, LB, Ohio University

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WI.	Class
ŴR	MIKE LeSURE, Ball State	6-1/188	Sr.
WR	MARK SZLACHCIC, Bowling Green	6-4/205	Sr.
TE	JEREMY PATTERSON, Miami	6-3/204	Seph.
T	RYAN CREED, Kent	6-5/238	Jr.
Ţ	PAUL HUTCHINS, W. Michigan	6-6/330	Sr.
C	ART DROSKI, Central Michigan	6-4/290	Sr.
	ANDY McCOLLUM, Toledo	6-5/264	Sr.
Ğ	BOBBY PANDELIDIS, E. Michigan	6-3/285	Sr.
QB	ERIK WHITE, Bowling Green State	6-5/210	Sr.
RB	COREY CROOM, Ball State	6-0/211	Sr.
RB	TIM CURTIS, Ohio University	5-8/207	Jr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	HENRY HALL, Ball State	6-1/230	Sr.
DL	MIKE NETTIE, Central Michigan	6-3/275	Sr.
DL	JASON WILKIE, Central Michigan	6-3/265	Sr.
DL	DAN WILLIAMS, Toledo	6-4/275	Sr.
LB	CURT McMILLAN, Miami of Chio	6-0/220	Sr.
LB	KEVIN O'BRIEN, Bowling Green	6-4/235	Sr.
LB	MARK PARRIS, Ball State	6-1/241	Sr.
DB	DAVE BIELINSKI, Bowling Green	6-3/215	Sr.
DB	RON CARPENTER, Miami of Ohio	6-1/185	Sr.
DB	COPATRIC DARTIS, Ball State	5-9/174	Jг.
DB	RICHARD PALMER, E. Michigan	6-0/185	Jr.
:	CDECIALISTS		

SPECIALISTS

PK	Name, School CHUCK SELINGER, C. Michigan DAMON KELLER, Ball State	HL/WL 5-11/190 5-11/165	

SEGONDIEAM

OLLTIADE			
Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	COURTNEY BURTON, Ohio U.	5-7/150	Soph.
WR	MARCUS GOODWIN, Toledo	5-8/153	Sr.
ΤE	BRIAN JEPSON, Ohio University	6-2/230	Jr.
Ŧ	SCOTT FLEMING, W. Michigan	6-5/279	Sr.
T	GREG SHERWIN, Central Michigan	6-5/290	Sr.
C	JEFF CHABOT, Miami of Ohio	6-3/274	Soph.
G	J.J. SCHIDEMANTLE, Akron	6-3/275	Jr.
G	DAVE VanDALE, W. Michigan	6-4/265	Sr.
QB	KEVIN MEGER, Toledo	6-1/190	Sr.
RB	KEVIN ELLERBE, Miami of Ohio	5-9/185	Jr.
RB	LeROY SMITH, Bowling Green	5-11/190	Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	WAYNE ANDERSON, Akron	5-11/270	J۲.
DL	WALTER CAMPBELL, E. Michigan	6-3/262	Jr.
DL	CARL KENDRICK, Ball State	6-2/254	Sr.
LB	MIKE DANLEY, Eastern Michigan	6-3/217	Sr.
LB	PHIL DUNN, Akron	6-0/230	Soph.
LB	DARRELL MOSSBURG, Toledo	6-2/225	Sr.
LB	MORREY NORRIS, Kent	5-11/206	Soph.
DB	CARLOS BROOKS, Bowling Green	6-0/200	Sr.
DB	DARRALL STINSON, C. Michigan	6-3/205	Jr.
. DB	WAYNE WADE, Akron	6-1/185	Jr.
. DB	SHEAN WILLIAMS, Miami of Ohio	5-6/150	Şr.
	and the second s		

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
PK	RUSTY HANNA, Toledo	5-9/155	Sr.
P	DENNIS NICHOLL, C. Michigan	5-11/165	Sr.

Defensive strengths: Mike Nettie is one of the league's top defensive linemen. Darrall Stinson and Oscar Ford are the best players in an experienced secondary.

Defensive weaknesses: The linebacking corps will be suspect until replacements can be found for team-leading tackler Todd Reynolds and Clarence Rose, last season's starters at the inside posts.

Special teams: Place-kicker Chuck Selinger's 67 points led the MAC in scoring last fall. Dennis Nicholl is a steady punter.

Key to success: The offense needs to be on the field as much as the defense.

Sure sign of trouble: A revolving door at quarterback.

Coach Herb Deromedi says: "On paper, we may come up short to many of the other teams in the MAC, but I think we can still have a good team."

5/TOLEDO

Couch: Gary Pinkel (5-5-1, 1 year).

1991 resort: 5-5-1; MAC: 4-3-1/T3rd.

Key losses: Darren Anderson, CB; David Andrews,
FB; Tony Borgerding, LB; Joe Dilauro, OT; Matt
Eberflus, LB; Joe Lajewski, WR; Vince Marrow, TE;
Brian Raub, OS; Mark Rhea, DE; Al Thigpen, C.
Starters religning: fiftense (5): Steve Covan, TB, 511/190, Sr.; Chadd Dehn, T, 6-2/288; Soph; Marcus Goodwin, WR; 5-8/153, Sr.; Andy; McCellum,
G, 6-5/264, Sr.; Kevin Meger, OB, 6-1/190, Sr.; Delosse (7): Al Baker, S. 6-0/190, Jr.; Chris Boykin,
T, 6-0/262, Sr.; Tim Caffey, S. 6-0/182, Sr.; Terry
Jackson, T, 6-2/260, Jr.; Jason Kelley, CB, 5-9/
187, Sr.; Darrell Mossburg, LB, 8-2/225; Sr.; Dan
Williams, E, 6-4/275, Sr. Klekers (2): Brian Bor-

ders, P. 6-2/201, Sr.; Rusty Hanna, K. 5-9/155,

or, Other key reterness: Ryan Barry, TE, Sr.; Tom Boyd, WR, Jr.; Kelth Brewster, C, Sr.; Mark Brewster, LB, Sr.; Chad Brown, CB, Jr.; Maurice Bulls, DE, Jr.; John Formentin, LB, Jr.; Charlle Webb, OG, Jr.; Kan

Yohn, OG, Jr.
Tep beweemers: Ernle Baskin, DE, Fr. (RS); Nate
Bryant, DB, Jr. (JC); Shawn Crandali, DT, Fr.
(RS); Marcus Griffin, WR, Jr. (JC); Thomas Jackson, LB, Soph. (JC); Tim Kubiak, QB, Fr. (RS);
Kevin Montgomery, OT, Fr. (RS); Brent Parkhili,
LB, Fr. (RS); Mark Spring, K, Fr.; Reggie Walls,
FB, Jr. (JC); Aristotle Wilson, RB, Fr. (RS).
Sebedkie Arlanass State, Sent. 5: at Akran, Sent.

FB, Jr. (JU); Anistode Wilson, NB, FT. (185).
Schedie: Arkansas State, Sept. 5; at Akron, Sept.
12; at Purdue, Sept. 19; at Central Michigan, Sept.
26; Western Michigan, Oct. 10; Bowling Green.
State, Oct. 17; at Miami of Ohio, Oct. 24; Kent; Oct.
31; at Ball State, Nov. 7; Eastern Michigan, Nov.
14; at Northern Illinois, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Rockets. Site: Toledo, O.

Outlook: After becoming the Rockets' third head coach in as many years in 1991, Gary Pinkel enters his second season hoping to add some stability. It would help if his team became more adept at throwing the football out of its spread offense.

Offensive strengths: Kevin Meger is running the same offense two years in a row for the first time in his career. He's also the most mobile quarterback in the league, with 733 rushing yards over the last two years. Steve Cowan provides a good running threat. Marcus Goodwin is an all-conference receiver.

Offensive weaknesses: Meger's rushing numbers may grow even bigger if holes on the line aren't plugged and he's forced to run. Tight end is a major quesion mark.

Defensive strengths: End Dan Williams has the size, speed, agility and quickness that pro scouts love. Linebacker Darrell Mossburg is back after making 136 tackles a year ago.

Defensive weaknesses: The Rockets' leading tackler, Matt Eberflus, won't be back, leaving a big void at outside linebacker

Special teams: Punter Brian Borders and place-kicker Rusty Hanna constitute the league's best kicking tandem. Goodwin is as dangerous running back kicks as he is catching passes.

Key to success: A quick, easy adaptation to the spread offense Pinkel loves to use.

Sure sign of trouble: The training staff helping Meger off the field.

Coach Gary Pinkel says: "It is very important for this team to make significant physical improvement in strength, speed and quickness."

6/WESTERN MICH.

Corch: Al Molde (31-24, 5 years; 138-81-6 overall, 21 years).
1991 record: 6-5. MAC: 4-4/T5th.

1991 recert: 6-5. MAC: 4-4/15th. Key losses: Eric Ferguson, DE; Virgil Grayson, SB; Paul Johnson, DT; Greg Kelley, LB; Jon Manier, C; Mark Nahözny, DT; Todd Rawsthorne, P; Corey Sylve, RB; Lavelle VanHorn, SE; Robert Walker, TE; Eric West, CB; Bob Wolf, OG.

Te; Enc West, Co.; Bob Worl, Vol. Starters returning, T., 6-5/279, Sr.; Paul Hutchins, T., 6-6/330, Sr.; John Morton, FL, 6-3/178, Sr.; Brad Tayles, QB, 6-3/200, Sr.; Dave VanDale, 6, 6-4/265, Sr. Datesse [6]: Dave Cuttip, E, 6-3/234, Sr.; Paul Davis, S, 5-

10/188, Sr.; Rufus Harris, LB; 6-2/208, Soph.; Steve Hawkins, S. 6-5/198; Jr.; Pierre Hixon, CB, 6-0/176, Jr.; Carl Lopez, LB; 6-0/217, Sr. Kleturs [1]: Jay Barresi, K, 5-10/179, Sr.

[1]: vay Bartesi, K. 5 - W. 17.9. St.

Other by returnes: Curt Chrencik, P. Sh.; Jeff Lujan,
LB, Sr.; Kam Merritt, FB, Jr. (RS); Tom Nutten, C,
Soph.; Tim Osborne, S. Sr.; deff: Reynolds, CB, Jr.

(RS/medical); Mark Ricks, CB, Sr.; Tony Tiefenbach, DE, Soph.; Andre Walface, RB, Soph

Tep arweemers: Rich Kalser, DE, Fr. (RS); Kevin Knope, K, Fr. (RS); Derrick Lott; FB, Fr. (RS); Matt Sikora, DT, Fr. (RS); Jim Yackaro, RB, Fr.

Charles At Bowling Green State, Sept. 5; at Texas Christian, Sept. 12; Akron, Sept. 19; at Ohio University, Sept. 28; Ball State, Oct. 3; at Toledo; Oct. 10; Eastern Michigan, Oct. 17; at Kent, Oct. 24; Northern Illneis, Oct. 31; at Mami of Ohio, Nov. 7; Central Michigan, Nov. 14.

Mickerma: Broncos. Site: Kalamazoo, Mich.

Outlook: Death and taxes are the only things more certain than the Broncos throwing the football in 1992. The key will be whether they or their opponents catch it.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Brad Tayles enters his senior year as Western Michigan's career total offense leader. John Morton averaged 15 yards per reception last season. Paul Hutchins is one of the MAC's top tackles.

Offensive weaknesses: Tayles was intercepted a league-high 17 times last season, and finding linemen who can afford him better protection was a big offseason priority.

Defensive strengths: Cornerback Pierre Hixon is the best player in an experienced secondary. Six defensive backs have started at least one game.

Defensive weaknesses: There's a lack of depth along the line and at inside linebacker. Both starting tackles will be new.

Special teams: Place-kicker Jay Barresi, the Broncos' leading scorer the last three seasons, will be challenged by redshirt freshman Kevin Knope. Curt Chrencik will handle the punting. Key to success: Finding enough players

to complement Tayles on offense. Sure sign of trouble: An opposing player picking off another Tayles pass.

Coach Al Molde says: "One of our objectives has always been to control the clock. In the past, we've done that with the short passing game."

EASTERN MICH.

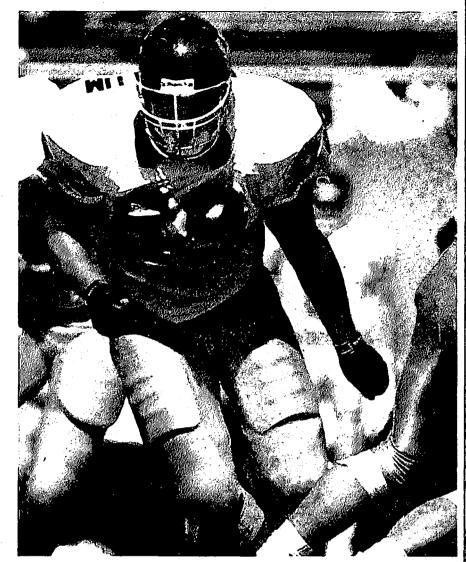
Corch: Jim Harkema (41-50-5, 9 years; 109-82-6 overall, 19 years). 1991 record: 3-7-1, MAC: 3-4-1/7th:

Key losses: Werner Blakely, LB/CB; Monty Kirk-land, P: Dave Marshall, LB; Joe Palandri, C; Charles Payne, DE; Jon Pfelfer, WR; Jelf Squibbs, OT: Jason Wolf, TE.

OT: Jason Wolf, TE.

Starters returning: Offesse (6): Mike Boyle, T. 6-4/259, Jr.; Kwanne McKinnton, DB, 6-3/383, Soph, Cameron Moss, TB, 6-1/177, Jr.; Eddle: Nwapharaocha, FB, 6-3/247, Jr.; Bobby Pandelidis, G, 6-3/285, Sr.; Bryan Wauldron, WR, 6-2/185, Soph, Defrase (8): Walter Campbell, E, 6-3/262, Jr.; Mike Danley, LB; 6-3/217, Sr.; Mickey McBride, T, 6-4/257, Sr.; Cazzie Nelson, CB, 6-2/200, Sr.; Richard Palmer, CB, 6-0/185, Jr.; Ronald Rice, S, 6-2/180, Soph.; Sean Shoda, T, 6-1/272, Sr.; Kevin Tooson, S, 8-2/209, Jr.; Kickera [1]: Jim Langelch, K, 6-2/191, Sr.; Clibar key returnses: Kevin Beverly, C, Sonh.; Jerry

Other key returness: Kevin Beverly, C. Soph.; Jerry



One less warry: One hole the Toledo line won't have to worry about plugging is the guard spot that Andy McCollum occupies.

Cartock, LB, Sr.; Chris Cox, LB, Sr.; Mike Graff, FB, Jr.; (RS/ankte); Tony Johnson, OG, Jr.; Dennis Parker, DE, Soph.; Rodney Screen, WR, Sr.; Craig Thompson, SE, Jr.; Sean Williams, DT, Jr. Top newsemers: Tom Bolvin, WR, Fr. (RS); David Dobbin, TB, Fr. (RS); Phil Essner, R, Sr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Aaron, Grace, C, Fr. (RS); Andre Green, WR, Jr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Brian Howard, LB, Fr. (RS); Michael Lightner, OT, Fr. (RS); Kwesi Ramsey, QB, Fr. (RS); Mike Thomas, DB, Fr. (RS).

(RS); Mike Thomas, DB, Fr. (RS).

(RS); Mike Thomas, DB, Fr. (RS); Louisiana Tech, Sept. 12; at Penn State, Sept. 19; Kent, Sept. 26; Miami of Chio, Oct. 3; at Ball State; Oct. 10; at Western Michigan, Oct. 17; Ohio University, Oct. 24; at Army, Oct. 31; at Central Michigan, Nov. 7; at To-lede, Nov. 14. ledo, Nov. 14

Outlook: The Eagles have compiled an overall record of 5-16-1 the last two seasons and need to find a consistent offense if they are to improve in 1992. They were last in the league in total offense a year ago.

Mickens: Eagles. Site: Ypsilanti, Mich.

Offensive strengths: The running game should be solid with Eastern Michigan's six leading rushers of '91 finding the holes created by All-MAC guard Bobby Pandelidis.

Offensive weaknesses: The Eagles had

better hope Pandelidis stays healthy, because there's little depth behind him. The receiving corps also lacks experi-

Defensive strengths: Eight returning starters solidify the defense. Cornerback Richard Palmer's seven interceptions tied for the MAC lead and ranked sixth nationally last year. Tackle Mickey McBride led the league with 21 tackles for losses.

Defensive weaknesses: Eastern Michigan needs a few good linebackers to team with leading tackler Mike Danley

Special teams: The Eagles' return game probably is more dangerous than their offense. Ronald Rice averaged 29 yards per kickoff return to lead the league. Craig Thompson led the MAC in punt returns, including one 96-yard jaunt for a touchdown. Place-kicker Jim Langeloh is coming off an average year.

Key to success: Developing an offense that's a weapon, not a liability.

Sure sign of trouble: Rice returning a lot

of kickoffs.

Coach Jim Harkema says: "We were not a good offensive team last year, so that is a high priority."

8/AKRON

Coach: Gerry Faust (30-34-2, 6 years; 60-60-

3, 11 years). 1991 recent: 5-8 as an independent.

Key losses: Eric Drakes, DL; Darryl Green, DL; Kenny, Green, CB; Brett Jackson; OT; Tyrone Nel-son, FB; Mike O'Connor, C; Mike Orbovich, TE; Cdell Robbins, LB; Harold Robinson, WR; Chris-Shee, OT; Jeff Sweitzer, OB.

Shee, OT; Jeff Sweltzer, OB.
Startus returnles; Offisse (4): Beb Dunwiddie, G, 6-2/270, Jr.; Marien Jacobs, RB, 5-10/195, Soph. 2/270, Jr.; Marien Jacobs, RB, 5-10/195, Soph. J. Schidemantle, G, 6-3/275, Jr.; Ramont Small, RB, 6-0/195, Soph. Defesse [7]: Wayne Anderson, L, 5-11/270, Jr.; Jerry Bast, LB, 6-5/240, Sr.; Phil Dunn, LB, 6-0/230, Soph.; Victor Green, S, 6-0/190, Sr.; Bruce Keys, LB, 6-5/245, Sr.; Chris Owens, CB, 5-11/175, Sr.; Wayne Wade, CB, 6-1/185, Jr. Klekers [1]: Daron Alcorn, K/P, 6-3/205. 185, Jr. Klekers [1]: Daron Alcorn, K/P, 6-3/205,

Other toy returnes: Lavern Bass, WR, Sr.; Lance Cash, UB, Soph.; Chris Haskins, DL, Jr.; Brett, Hrivnak, TE, Jr.; Chad Licht, LB, Soph.; Mike Lyons, OL, Soph.; Keith Queener, DL, Soph.; Chris Sutyak, OL, Sr.; Marcel Weens, UB, Jr.

Sulyak, U., Sr., Marcel Weems, UB, Jr., Top sewcompris, Eddle Alford, RB, Fr., Jeff, Blakely, WR, Fr. (RS), Morris Cosey, DL, Soph. (Prop 48); Chris. Counahan, OL., Fr. (RS); Jemail: Hawkins, OB, Fr. (RS); Alfonso Holmes, DL, Fr.; Sean James, LB, Fr. (RS); Adam Martin, RB, Fr. (RS/knee); Tracy Parks, LB, Soph. (Prop 48); Joe Rumolo, DL, Fr.; Dorlan Small, LB, Fr.; Jermel Wilkerson, RB, Soph. (Prop 48);

Soph. (Prop 48).
Schedule: At Eastern Michigan, Sept. 5; Toledo, Sept. 12; at Western Michigan, Sept. 19; at Ohio University, Oct. 3; at Kent. Oct. 10; at Ball State, Oct. 17; Bowling Green State, Oct. 24; Central Michigan, Oct. 31; Templa, Nov. 7; Youngstown State, Nov. 14; at Cincinnati, Nov. 21.

Nicknama: Zins.

Site: Akron, O.

Outlook: Gerry Faust has been trying for six years to build a winner at Akron. The former Notre Dame coach has had just two winning seasons with the Zips. However, don't look for MAC teams to take it easy on him in Akron's first year in the league.

Offensive strengths: Guards Bob Dunwiddie and J.J. Schidemantle provide veteran leadership along the line, with Schidemantle having all-league potential. Ramont Small is an effective player running the ball or catching passes.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Jeff Sweitzer, who accounted for 48 percent of the offense last year, will be difficult to replace. There's also little experience at fullback or in the receiving corps. Two new tackles and a center must be found.

Defensive strengths: The Zips have a tough, veteran corps of linebackers and a solid secondary. Phil Dunn finished fifth in the nation in tackles (174) as a freshman last season, and fellow linebacker Bruce Keys made 142 stops. Defensive backs Chris Owens, Victor Green and Wayne Wade solidify a maturing secondary.

Defensive weaknesses: A lack of experienced linemen might give opponents too much time to throw the ball and put added pressure on the linebackers against the run.

Special teams: Daron Alcorn did double duty last season. He averaged 41.7 yards per punt and connected on 13 of 17

field-goal attempts. The punt-return team needs to improve on last year's paltry six-yard average.

Key to success: Finding a successor to Sweitzer-quickly.

Sure sign of trouble: If Alcorn starts doing a lot more punting than field-goal kicking.

Coach Gerry Faust says: "The MAC is a very competitive league, and it will be a great challenge for Akron."

OHIO UNIVERSITY

Cosch: Tom Lichtenberg (3-17-2, 2 years: 21-31-3 overall, 5 years).
1991 record: 2-8-1, MAC: 1-6-1/8th.
Key (speec: Jon Clemons, IRB: Michael Dunn, LB; RJ-

chard Hill, WR: Dalvon Logan, S; John Murphy, C; Keith Shepherd, OT.

Keith Shephard, OT.
Starters returning: Officese [7]: Courtney Burton, WR, 5-7/150, Soph.; Tim Curtis, RB, 5-8/207, Jr.; Doug Davidson, TE, 6-3/235, Sr.; Tom Dubs, QB, 6-0/185, Soph.; Jack Boldsberry, L, 6-2/272, St.; Chris Park, L, 6-5/280, Jr.; Darran Reese, L, 6-5/250, Jr.; Darran Reese, L, 6-5/250, Jr.; Darran Reese, L, 6-5/250, Sr.; Dwayne Cox, LB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Jim Frenzer, T, 6-2/265, Soph.; Anthony Greene, T, 8-3/285, Sr.; Nehemiah Haire; S; 6-1/190, Sr.; Randy, Rawlins, CB, 5-10/170, Jr.; Ed Slay, NT, 6-1/240, Jr.; Tony Vesple, LB, 6-2/240, Sr.; Scott Zele, LB, 6-0/230, Sr. Kleters [2]: David Hoving, P, 6-3/205, Jr.; Jeff Marchant, K, 5-9/175, Jr.; Utar, teg. returnese: Troy Brandt, DT, Soph.; Andy Canter, OT, Soph.; Birlan Jepson, TE, Jr.; Marlo McCollough, CB, Sr.; Brent Patton, WR, Sr.; Jim Rodak, NT, Jr.; Mike Young, LB, Fr.; Lakarlos Townsend, RB, Fr.

Townsend, RB, Fr.

Townsend, Hb. Fr.
Setseth: At lowa State, Sept. 5; at Kent, Sept. 12; at Central Michigan, Sept. 19; Western Michigan; Sept. 26; Akron, Oct. 3; at Bowling Green State, Oct. 10; Miami of Ohio, Oct. 17; at Eastern Michigan, Oct. 24; Ball State, Oct. 31; Youngstown State, Nov. 7; at Colorado State, Nov. 14. Nickerme: Bobcats.

Sile: Athens, O.

Outlook: It's been 10 years since Ohio University last had a winning season. The Bobcats have won only four games over the last three years. Though they will struggle again in '92, their record should be better.

Offensive strengths: Running back Tim Curtis was second in the MAC in both rushing and scoring last season. Receiver Courtney Burton averaged 16.4 yards per catch on 20 receptions.

Offensive weaknesses: The Bobcats committed a whopping 24 turnovers in 1991. They must hold onto the football better and give opponents reasons not to key on Curtis.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Scott Zele has made 240 tackles over the last two years. Jason Carthen is a force on the outside. Nine starters are back from a unit that allowed a league-low 28 points per game.

Defensive weaknesses: The line is smallish and doesn't make big plays. There's also little depth behind the

Special teams: Wayne Clements puts a thrill into every kickoff he returns. Burton is an adequate punt returner. David Hoyng is one of the MAC's top punters.

Key to success: Building an offensive line that will make Curtis' job a lot easier.

Sure sign of trouble: If Clements gets on

an early pace that will surpass his 34 kickoff returns of last year.

Coach Tom Lichtenberg says: "We still have a way to go at Ohio University to bring our football program back to respectability, but we're making strides."

10/KENT

Casek: Pete Cordelli (1-10, 1 year).
1991 record: 1-10. MAC: 1-7/8th.

Kej lasses: Doug Agnew, DT; Shawn Barnes, WR;
Paul Haynes, DB; Andy Krupa, DT; John Repasky,
OT; Brad Smith; TB.

OT/Brad Smith, TB.
Starters interaling: Offices (8): Ryan Creed, T. 6-5/238, Jr.; Ted Gregory, FB; 6-0/225, Jr.; John Corentz, C. 6-2/249, Sr.; Steve Koproski, TE, 5-1/225, Jr.; Jay McNell, B, 6-3/250, Soph.; Kevin Shuman, OB, 6-1/180, Soph.; Rodney West, G, 6-5/280, Jr.; Jimmie Woody, WR, 5-11/203, Sr. Defices [8]: Brian Allen, S, 6-1/176, Jr.; Vance Benton, CB, 5-11/176, Jr.; Kevin Harris, CB, 5-7/176, Sr.; Horrey Norris, LB, 5-11/208, Soph.; Sean Patterson, LB, 6-0/215, Jr.; Brady Renners, LB, 6-1/224, Jr.; Dayo Thatch, NG, 5-1/1250, Sr.; Jeff Turner, LB, 6-2/211, Jr. Klekers [2]: Mike Challenger, P, 6-1/172, Soph.; Josh Izenour, K, 5-10/ lenger, P., 6-1/172, Soph.; Josh Izenour, K, 5-10/ 181, Soph

181, Soph.

Dittr key returness: Barkeley Claggett, DB, Soph;
Reggie Cook, DB, Sr.; Brian Dusho, WR, Jr.; Marcus: Haywood, RB, Sr.; Matt Jenne, DL, Soph;
Adam Rex, LB, Soph.; Troy Robinson, RB, Jr.; Mike
Steining, OL, Jr.; Maurice Sumpter, LB, Jr.
Top sawccause: A.J. Jimerson, WR, Fr. (RS).
Setadise: At Pittsburgh, Sept. 5; Ohlo University,
Sept. 12; Ball State, Sept. 19; at Eastern Michigan,
Sept. 26; at Cincinnati, Oct. 3; Akron, Oct. 10; at
Central Michigan, Oct. 17; Western Michigan, Oct.
24; at Toledo, Oct. 31; Bowling Green State, Nov. 7;
at Miami of Ohlo, Nov. 14. at Miami of Ohlo, Nov. 14. Michama: Golden Flashes.

8ite: Kent. O.

Outlook: Kent has had just one winning season in the last 14 years. Second-year Coach Pete Cordelli's rebuilding program continues, but his '92 team probably is destined for the MAC cellar.

Offensive strengths: Center John Lorentz leads a trio of three veteran linemen. Quarterback Kevin Shuman got some much-needed experience as a freshman last season.

Offensive weaknesses: Replacements must be found for last year's leading rusher (Brad Smith) and top receiver (Shawn Barnes).

Defensive strengths: Morrey Norris had 142 tackles last season and was voted the MAC's Freshman of the Year. Fellow linebacker Sean Patterson also had 142 stops. Cornerbacks Kevin Harris and Vance Benton have experience.

Defensive weaknesses: There's a dearth of linemen who can make life a little easier for Norris and Patterson.

Special teams: There must be improvement here; things can't get much worse. Believe it or not, the Golden Flashes kicked just two field goals in 1991 (in nine attempts) and also finished last in the MAC in net punting average (33.3 yards).

Key to success: A good season from Marcus Haywood, who should become Kent's primary ground gainer after Smith's departure. Shuman can't be expected to carry the entire offense.

Sure sign of trouble: Any time Kent must kick the ball.

Coach Pete Cordelli says: "We need to improve our intensity, technique and fundamentals."

SCOUTING THE MIDEAMERICAN

Ascending: Bowling Green State and Miami of Ohio. After both schools had some lean years in the late 1980s, coaches Gary Blackney and Randy Walker, respectively, seem to have turned things around. Blackney di-

rected his first Falcon team to the MAC title last year after being picked to finish seventh. Walker is using Miami's strong defensive tradition to rebuild the Redskins.

Descending: Central Michigan. Herb Deromedi is the dean of league coaches, but with the loss of 12 start-

ers, his 1992 team will be hard pressed to match its recent success. The Chippewas are in danger of having their streak of 26 straight non-losing seasons snapped.

Nightmare schedule: Bowling Green. The Falcons must play at Ohio State and at Wisconsin and host Peach Bowl champion East Carolina in the first month of the season. Runner-up: Ball State, which opens with road games at Clemson and Kansas.

Dream schedule: Akron. The MAC's newest member gets defending champ Bowling Green at home and does not have to play Miami of Ohio anywhere.

Best matchup of the year: Miami at Bowling Green, October 31. This game between projected conference front-runners features Bowling Green's high-powered offense against one of the top defenses in the nation.

Shocker of the year: Bowling Green will beat Wisconsin at Madison on September 19. OK, so the Badgers aren't the Big Ten's best. Still, beating a team from that league on its home field would be an accomplishment.

Bowl bound: The 11-year pact between the Mid-American and Big West conferences to have their champions play in the California Raisin Bowl at Fresno has expired. However, the two league champions still will meet in a bowl game. The new site is Las Vegas, with the game tentatively scheduled for December 18 at the 32,000-seat Sam Boyd Silver Bowl. Count on Bowling Green being there.

Biggest shoes to fill: Central Michigan quarterback Jeff Bender's. Joe Youngblood, Erik Timpf and Dean Heavrin are the top candidates, but none has much experience.

Most underrated player: Artie Mangham, LB, Bowling Green. This multitalented linebacker returned four kickoffs last season and scored a touchdown on a one-yard run from scrimmage. He also recorded 86 tackles, the fourth-highest total among Falcon defenders.

Impact newcomers: Vito Cinquepalmi, OL, Bowling Green, Jr. (JC); Juan

Gorman, WR, Ball State, Jr. (JC); Benny King, LB, Ohio University, Fr.; Lakarlos Townsend, RB, Ohio, Fr.; Keyon Vinegar, OL, Ball State, Jr. (JC); Aristotle Wilson, RB, Toledo, Fr. (RS).

HONOR ROLL

Best offensive line:
Miami of Ohio
Best offensive bretifield:
Bowling Green State
Best bestup quirterback:
Lance Aukerman, Ball State
Best wide receivers:
Bowling Green State
Best statch receiver:
Mark Statchico, Bowling Green
Best datasave line:

Ball State

Best-hitting defensive lineman:
Dan Williams, Toledo
Best (Insbackers:
Ball State
Best-hitting linebacker:
Curt McMiltan, Miami of Ohio
Best secondary:
Miami of Ohio
Best-hitting defensive back:
Ron Carpenter, Miami of Ohio
Best McKlan game:

Best kick-soverage units:
Miami of Ohio
Best sosching staff:
Miami of Ohio
Best sosch:
Randy Waiker, Miami of Ohio
Best kickers endiffice:
Erik White, QB, Bowling Green
Best prospect:
Dan Williams, DL, Toledo

Coach of the year: Randy Walker, Miami. He earned a contract extension after last season and has his Redskins ready for a title run in '92.

Coach on the hot seat: Jim Harkema, Eastern Michigan. Harkema is 41-50-5 in nine years at Eastern Michigan with two straight losing seasons. The

school is undergoing a \$13 million stadium renovation and will need a winning team to put people in the stands.

Best bets: Bowling Green wide receiver Mark Szlachcic, Miami linebacker Curt McMillan and Miami safety Ron Carpenter all will be drafted by the National Football League in 1993. . . . The MAC will be one of the nation's top defensive leagues this fall. . . . Bowling Green will win the league title but not duplicate its 11-1 record. . . . McMillan will make at least 200 tackles. . . . Toledo quarterback Kevin Meger will be injured.

Odds and ends: The conference title will be decided on a percentage basis in 1992 because six teams will play eight league games and four teams will play nine. . . . The league's nonconference slate includes six games against Big Ten teams, three each against Big East and Big Eight teams. one each against Atlantic Coast. Southeastern and Southwest teams and seven against independents, including East Carolina and Division I-AA national champion Youngstown State. . . . Bowling Green's current 10game winning streak is the fourthlongest in the nation. . . . Gerry Faust has won the same number of games at Akron (30) in six years that he did at Notre Dame in five. . . . Sixteen All-MAC first-team players are back this year, including four at Ball State and three at Toledo. . . . Eighteen starters return at both Ohio and Miami. . . . Toledo linebacker Darrell Mossburg, who made 136 tackles in 1991, received no all-league mention after the season. . . . Miami led the league in attendance last year despite playing only four home games. . . . Central Michigan (in 1979 and '80) is the last MAC team to repeat as champion. . . . Akron is the first school to join the league since Eastern Michigan came aboard in 1976.

-JACK CARLE

RETURNING LEADERS

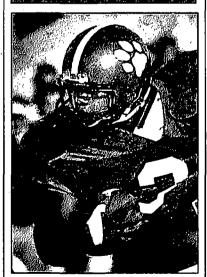
Reshing: Tim Curtis, Ohio, 98.6 yds./game (27.1 att., 1,085 yds., 10 TDs, 4.0 avg.).
Passing efficiency: Erik White, Bowling Green, 125.8 rating pts. (323 att., 185 comp., 2,204 yds., 17 TDs).
Total offerse: Erik White, Bowling Green, 207.9 yds./game (83 yds. rushing, 2,204 yds. passing, 2,287 total yds.).
Receiving: Mark Sziacholo; Bowling Green, 5.9

Receiving: Mark Szlachcic; Bowiling Green, 5.9 rec./game (65 rec., 943 yds., 8 TDs, 14.5 avg.). Secrens Chuck Selignes, Central Michigan, 6.1

Secrisg: Chuck Selinger, Central Michigan, 6.1 pts./game (0 TDs, 22 PATs, 15 FGs; 67 pts.). Pesting: Damon Keller, Ball State, 40.4 avg. (56 punts; 2,263 yds.). Pust returns: Mark Sziachele. Bowling Green.

Pust returns: Mark Sziachcic, Bowling Green, 8.2 avg. (20 att., 163 yds., 0 TDs). Klekeff returns: Ronald Rice, Eastern Michigan, 29.0 avg. (11 att., 319 yds., 0 TDs). Field goals: Chuck Selinger, Central Michigan, 1.4 FG/game (15/24 FGs, 63%).

Interespilens: Richard Palmer, Eastern Michigan, and Ron Garpenter, Miami, 0.64 Int./game (7 Int.).



Give him a break: A strong Ohio University line would make running back Tim Curtis' job easier.

Cautious Huskies likely to be top dogs once more

By DON BORST Tacoma News Tribune

wners of a 14-game winning streak, back-to-back Rose Bowl triumphs and a share of the league's first claim to a national championship since 1978, the Washington Huskies again are clear favorites to win the Pacific-10 Conference crown.

But Washington Coach Don James is understandably cautious. It doesn't take much of a memory to recall that just two years ago, Southern California was riding a comparable high and the Huskies were perennial also-rans.

In 1990, Southern Cal Coach Larry Smith was deflecting talk about having his program on cruise control as it sought a fourth consecutive Pac-10 title. And James was still rebuilding, fortunate that his Huskies had received an invitation to the Freedom Bowl the previous year on the heels of a bowlless 1988 season.

"You can't take anything for granted (nowadays)," James said emphatically.

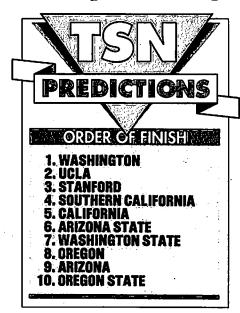
Whatever Washington is able to accomplish this season, it must do it without much of the talent from its 12-0 team of 1991. There were 11 key seniors on that team-10 of whom were selected in last April's National Football League draft. And that bevy of losses doesn't even include defensive tackle Steve Emtman, who became a \$9 million man for the NFL's Indianapolis Colts instead of a senior for James' Huskies.

It's a scenario remarkably similar to the one Smith and the Trojans experienced in '90, after linebacker Junior Seau and safety Mark Carrier chose first-round dollars over their senior seasons. Since then, it has been a quick descent for Southern Cal, and Smith hopes his team has bottomed out with its current six-game losing streak.

"I think everybody is going to experience this (a drop-off) at some time because of scholarship cuts and the opening up of the NFL draft," Smith said. "It's pretty hard to build a dynasty with freshmen and sophomores.'

Since the end of the '91 season, underclassmen Tommy Maddox of UCLA and Bob Whitfield of Stanford also opted for the draft. But even with the departure of the Bruins' quarterback and the Cardinal's offensive lineman—plus Washington's Emtman-the Pacific-10 still has a glittering array of returning tal-

Additionally, coaching changes figure to enhance the competition. Arizona State, trying to get a taste of California's recent success, hired away Coach Bruce Snyder from the Golden Bears. Cal then put its future in the hands of Washington offensive coordinator Keith Gilbertson. And Stanford. well, Stanford lured back the game's



most famous living coach in "Super Bowl Bill" Walsh.

With Snyder taking over a sleeping giant in Tempe, Gilbertson going to Berkeley with his "tee it high and let it fly" philosophy (an approach that players love) and Walsh hoping to re-create the magic of his Stanford and San Francisco 49er teams of the past, the Pac-10 will be wild in 1992.

WASHINGTON

Coach: Don James (144-54-2, 18 years; 169-73-2 overall, 22 years). 1991 recent: 12-0 (beat Michigan in Rose Bowl).

Pac-10:8-0/1st.

Pac-10:8-0/1st.

Key lesse: Mario Balley, SE; Ed Cunningham, C; Steve Embran, DT; Chico Fraley, LB; Dana Hall, CB; Donald Jones, LB; Slupell Malamala, OT; Orlando McKay, FL; Aaron Pierce, TE; Tyrone Rodgers, MG; Kris Rongen, OS.

Starters returning: Offense [5]: Beno Bryant, TB, 5-

11/178, Sr.; Blily Joe Hobert, QB, 6-3/225, Jr.; Matt Jones, FB, 6-2/215, Jr.; Lincoln Kennedy, T, 6-7/325, Sr.; Jim Nevelle, G, 6-2/265, Jr. Defense (6): Walter Balley, CB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Jaime Fields, LB, 6-0/230, Sr.; Dave Hoffmann, LB, 6-2/ 225, Sr.; Andy Mason, E. 6-2/238, Jr.; Shane Pahukoa, S. 6-3/202, Sr.; Tommle Smith, S, 6-2/ 212, Sr. Kickers (2): Travis Hanson, K, 6-0/165, Jr.; John Werdel, P, 6-2/188, Sr.

Olber key reterates: Damon Barry, SE, Soph.; Jay Barry, TB, Sr.; Mark Bruener, TE, Soph.; Hillary Butler, LB, Jr.; James Clifford, LB, Sr.; D'Marco Butter, LB, Jr.; James Clindro, LB, Sr.; D Marco Farr, NG, Jr.; Jamel Fountaine, LB, Jr.; Pete Kall-gls, OG, Jr.; Napoleon Kaufman, TB, Soph.; Joe Kralik, FL, Jr.; Mike Lustyk, DT, Sr.; Josh Moore, CB, Soph.; Andrew Peterson, OG, Soph.; Pete Pler-son, OT, Jr.; Dartus Turner, FB, Sr.

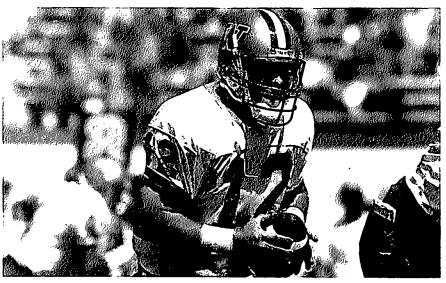
son, OT, Jr.; Dartus Turner, FB, Sr.
Top newcomars: Trevor Highfield, NG, Fr. (RS); Pat
Kesi, OL, Fr. (RS); Lawyer Milloy; DB, Fr.; Reggle
Reser; DB, Fr. (RS); Justin Thomas, LB, Fr. (RS);
Cedric White, DL, Fr.; Don Willis, OG, Fr. (RS).
Sebedsis: At Arizona State, Sept. 5; Wisconsin,
Sept. 12; Nebraska, Sept. 19; Southern California,
Oct. 3; California, Oct. 10; at Oregon, Oct. 17; Paciffc, Oct. 24; Stanford, Oct. 31; at Arizona, Nov. 7;
Oregon, State, Nov. 41; at Weshington, State, Nov.

Oregon State, Nov. 14; at Washington State, Nov.

Mickeame: Huskies. Site: Seattle.

Outlook: The Huskies have become a big, purple steamroller, flattening 25 of their last 27 opponents by an average margin of 28.3 points. However, some of Washington's blue-chip players-their eligibility exhausted—are virtually irreplaceable. And the next wave of players-led by cornerback Josh Moore, defensive tackle D'Marco Farr and wide receiver Joe Kralik—has yet to prove itself. Still, with plenty of firepower on hand and seven home games on the schedule, this remains the team to

Offensive strengths: The Huskies' second-string backfield (led by 1991 Rose Bowl Most Valuable Player Mark Brunell) probably could start at most other Division I-A programs, which says something about Washington's starters. Explosive tailback Beno Bry-



Full steam ahead: Billy Joe Hobert leads a Husky attack that has become a big, purple steamroller, flattening 25 of its last 27 opponents by an average margin of 28.3 points.

ant and can-do quarterback Billy Joe Hobert lead the way.

Offensive weaknesses: As deep and experienced as the Huskies are in the backfield, the opposite is true at the wide-receiver positions.

Defensive strengths: The linebacking unit and secondary are stocked with future NFL players, with linebacker Dave Hoffmann, safety Shane Pahukoa and cornerback Walter Bailey among the best in the country.

Defensive weaknesses: The loss of Emtman leaves the Huskies with an average defensive line, which might limit the blitzing that coordinator Jim Lambright might call for fear of a big run.

Special teams: John Werdel, not called on enough to qualify for the league punting title, averaged 40.8 yards per kick last year. Place-kicker Travis Hanson seeks consistency, while tailbacks Bryant and Napoleon Kaufman are threats to go all the way on every return.

Key to success: Opponents probably will test the defensive front early and often. Much will depend upon how discouraging the Huskies' rushing defense can be right from the start.

Sure sign of trouble: If Bailey or offensive tackle Lincoln Kennedy limps off, the Huskies will have to make major changes in what they like to do.

Coach Don James says: "We recognize that as big a target as we've been, we'll be an even bigger one (in 1992)."

Coach: Terry Donahue (125-54-8, 16 years). 1991 recent: 9.3 (beat Illinois in John Hancock Bowl) Pac-10:6-2/T2nd.

Bowl) Pac-10:6-2/T2nd.

Key lesses: Randy Cole, LB, Matt Darby, S, Brian Kelley, DT, Tommy Maddox, QB, James Malone, LB; Paul Richardson, FL; Scott Spaulding, QG; Marc Wilder, QG, Shawn Wills, TB Starter returning Offices [8]: Kaleaph Carter, FB, 6-0/231, Sr.; Rick Daly, TE, 6-5/238, Sr.; Aron Gidgeon, C, 6-1/265, Sr.; Sean LaChapelle, SE, 6-4/207, Sr.; Craig Novitsky, DT, 6-6/280, Sr.; Aron Gidgeon, C, 6-1/265, Sr.; Sean LaChapelle, SE, 6-4/207, Sr.; Craig Novitsky, DT, 6-6/280, Jr.; Craig Novitsky, DT, 6-6/280, Jr.; Cardin Gray, CB; 6-0/183, Sr.; Garrett Greedy, LB, 8-4/245, Jr.; Carl Greenwood, CB, 8-0/190, Soph.; Othelio Henderson, S, 6-0/200, Jr.; Bruce Walker, NG, 6-4/280, Jr.; Kletters [2]; Louis Perez, K, 5-9/195, Sr.; Darren Schager, R, 5-11/185, Jr.

185, Jr.
Other key returness: Bryan Adams, FL, Jr.; James Christensen. OG, Soph.; Travis Coiller, S. Jr.; Wayne Cook, OB, Soph.; Ricky Davis, TB, Jr.; Mazvin Goodwin, S., Soph.; Nikosi Liltieton, LB, Jr.; Jamir Miller, LB, Soph.; Rick Smalley, LB, Soph.; Derek Stevens, OG, Jr.; Brian Tighe, LB, Soph.; Matt Werner, DT, Jr.; Kevin Williams, TB, Sr.
Tep arwermers: Donnie Edwards, LB, Fr. (RS); Donovan Gallatin, S. Jr. (JC); Paul Guidry, DB, Fr.; Brent Guyton, LB, Fr.; Kevin Jordan, WR, Fr. (RS); Teddy Lawrence, DR, Fr. (RS); Abdul McCoullminh.

Teddy Lawrence, DB, Fr. (RS); Abdul McCullbuigh, DB, Fr.; Blorn Merten, K, Fr.; James Millner; FB, Fr. (RS); Jonathan Ogden, OT, Fr.; Matt Scenksen, OG, Fr. (RS).

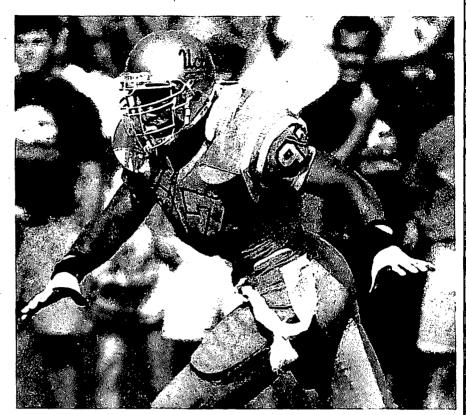
06, Fr. (RS).

Schedule: Cal State Fullerton, Sept. 12; at Brigham Young, Sept. 19; San Olego State, Sept. 26; at Arizona, Oct. 3; Stanford, Oct. 10; at Washington State, Oct. 17; Arizona State, Oct. 24; at California, Oct. 31; Oregon State, Nov. 7; at Oregon, Nov. 14; Southern California, Nov. 21.

Kleineine Bruins;

Site: Los Angeles.

Outlook: The Bruins have snapped back from their recent doldrums and should



Something special: UCLA linebacker Arnold Ale is one of the most versatile, valuable blayers in the country.

contend for their first Rose Bowl appearance since the 1985 season. The loss of junior-to-be quarterback Tommy Maddox to the NFL was a significant setback, but the defense was expected to lead this team anyway.

Offensive strengths: Vaughn Parker and Craig Novitsky are a superior pair of tackles on an experienced line that will try to help tailback Kevin Williams surpass his 1,089-yard rushing total of 1991. Sean LaChapelle led the league in receiving and could help along quarterback Wayne Cook.

Offensive weaknesses: Sophomore Cook can't do everything Maddox could-but coordinator Homer Smith won't ask him to.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Arnold Ale is one of the most versatile, valuable players in the country, and Jamir Miller is a budding star outside. The secondary is excellent, and the line is better than average.

Defensive weaknesses: Noseguard Bruce Walker's inability to push himself away from the dinner table. He's on the verge of eating himself out of the lineup.

Special teams: Former walk-on Louis Perez was quite a kicking find. The punting will suffice.

Key to success: If the Bruins can get adequate quarterbacking with few turnovers, they could beat any team on their schedule.

Sure sign of trouble: One or two injuries in the offensive line or at outside linebacker could become serious chinks in the Bruins' armor.

Coach Terry Donahue says: "The way so

many teams play eight-man fronts these days—they make you try to beat them by throwing-makes the quarterback position more important than ever."

STANFORD

Couch: Bill Walsh (17-7 at Stanford in 1977-

1991 recent: 8-4 (lost to Georgia Tech in Alcha Bowl), Pac-10: 8:2/172ng

1891 resirt 6-4 (bott to Beorgia Tech in Alcha Bowl). Pac- (to 8-2/172nd.

Key lesses: Turner Baur. TE: Jon Pickney, FL; Albert Richardson, S. Tommy, Vardell, FB; Chris Walsh, WR, Beb Whitfield, OT.

Starter returning: Offers [8]: Brian Cassidy, G, 6-5/305, Jr.; Glen Cayanaugh, C, 6-7/295, Jr.; Christophilos, Jr.; Gen Cayanaugh, C, 6-7/295, Jr.; Christophilos, JR.; Gen Cayanaugh, C, 6-7/295, Jr.; Christophilos, Sr.; Steve Hoyem, T, 6-8/310, Sr.; Glyn, Milburn, RB, 6-8/175, Sr.; Steve Stenström, OB, 6-2/200, Jr.; Offices [10]: Seyon Albert, S, 5-11/195, Sr.; Estevan Alyla, T, 6-3/255; Sr.; Vaughri Bryan; CB, 5-11/185, Jr.; Jason Fisk, NG, 6-4/260, Ur.; Davie Barnett, LB, 6-1/220, Sr.; Klekers (2): Aaran Mills, K, 6-0/175, Jr.; Paul Stonehouse, P.,5-8/175, Sr.; Tom Williams, CB, 6-0/235, Sr.; Klekers (2): Aaran Mills, K, 6-0/175, Jr.; Paul Stonehouse, P.,5-8/175, Sr.; Gen Cayana, CB, Sr.; Aaran Rembisz, NG, Sr.; David Shaw, WB, Jr.; Tommy, Kaecht, S, Jr.; Ren Reddill, CB, Sr.; Aaran Rembisz, NG, Sr.; David Shaw, WB, Jr.; Top smeasure: Eric Abrams, K, Fr.; Joff Buckey, OL, Fr.; Kwame Ellis, RB, Fr.; Justin Morabito, LB, Fr.; Renard Blis, RB, Fr.; Justin Morabito, LB,

Erhetult: Texas ASM (Disneyland Pigskin Classic at Anaheim, Calif.), Aug. 26. Gregon, Sept. 12, Northwestern, Sept. 19, San Jose State, Sept. 26, at Notre Dame, Oct. 3, at UOLA, Oct. 10, Arizona, Oct. 17, at Oregon State, Oct. 24, at Washington, Oct. 31, Southern Cal. Nov. 7; Washington State, Nov. 14, at California, Nov. 7; Washington State, Nov. 14, at California, Nov. 2; Nov. 14: at California, Nov. 21. Nicksand Cardinal Bite: Stanford, Calif.

ALL-PACIFIC-TO

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



'Drew **Bledsoe OB, Washington State**

DEFENSE



Ron George, LB, Stanford

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Randy Nonhof, OT, California **DEFENSE:** Tamasi Amituanai, DE, Arizona

OFFENICE

OFFENSE			
Pos.	Name, School	HL/Wt.	Clas
WR	SEAN DAWKINS, California	6-4/205	Jr.
WR	SEAN LaCHAPELLE, UCLA	6-4/207	Sr.
TE	CLARENCE WILLIAMS, Wash. St.	6-2/236	Sr.
T	LINCOLN KENNEDY, Washington	6-7/325	Sr.
T	VAUGHN PARKER, UCLA	6-3/275	Jr.
C	TOBY MILLS, Arizona State	6-3/270	Jr.
G	BRIAN CASSIDY, Stanford	6-5/305	Jr.
G	CHRIS DALMAN, Stanford	6-4/290	Sr.
QB	DREW BLEDSOE, Wash. State	6-6/224	J۲.
RB	RUSSELL WHITE, California	6-0/210	Sr.
RB	KEVIN WILLIAMS, UCLA	6-2/200	Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class	
OL	MIKE CHALENSKI, UCLA	6-5/260	Sr.	
DL	ANDY MASON, Washington	6-2/238	Jr.	
DL	MACK TRAVIS, California	6-2/285	Sr.	
LB	ARNOLD ALE, UCLA	6-3/225	Sr.	
LB	RON GEORGE, Stanford	6-2/220	Sr.	
LB	JAIME FIELDS, Washington	6-0/230	Sr.	
LB	DAVE HOFFMANN, Washington	6-2/225	Sr.	
OB	WALTER BAILEY, Washington	5-11/190	Sr.	
DB	ERIC CASTLE, Oregon	6-3/208	Sr.	
DB	CARLTON GRAY, UCLA	6-0/183	Sr.	
DB	SHANE PAHUKOA, Washington	6-3/202	Sr.	
- 1,1,11	CDECIALISTS			

SPECIALIS IS

Pos.	Mama, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
PK	DOUG BRIEN, California	6-0/170	Jr.
· P	CHRIS NOONAN, California	6-2/195	Sr.

SECONDITEAM

OFFENSE

POS.	Name, School	KL/WL	Cisss
WR	PHILLIP BOBO, Washington State	5-11/186	Jr.
WR	ERIC GULIFORD, Arizona State	5-8/160	Sr.
ΤE	YONNIE JACKSON, Southern Cal	6-2/250	Sr.
T	TONY BOSELLI, Southern Cal	6-7/275	Soph.
T	CRAIG NOVITSKY, UCLA	6-6/280	Jr.
C	GLEN CAVANAUGH, Stanford	6-7/295	Jг.
G	PETE KALIGIS, Washington	6-2/255	Jr.
G	FLETCHER KEISTER, Oregon State	6-4/284	Sr.
QB	BILLY JOE HOBERT, Washington	6-3/225	Jr.
RB	BENO BRYANT, Washington	5-11/178	Sr.
RB	ESTRUS CRAYTON, Southern Cal	6-2/190	Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Mame, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	TY PARTEN, Arizona	6-6/271	Sr.
DL	SAILUSI POULIVAATI, Oregon St.	6-2/273	Sr.
DL	DAVID WEBB, Southern Cal	6-4/225	Sr.
LB	MICK BARSALA, California	6-2/230	Sr.
LB	DAVE GARNETT, Stanford	6-1/220	Sr.
LB	ANTHONY McCLANAHAN, WSU	6-1/212	J۲.
LB	WILLIE McGINEST, Southern Cal	6-6/230	J۲.
DB	WOLF BARBER, California	6-0/185	Sr.
D8	OTHELLO HENDERSON, UCLA	6-0/200	J۲.
DB	JASON OLIVER, Southern Cai	5-11/190	Jr.
DB	TOMMIE SMITH, Washington	6-2/212	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	HI./Wt.	Class
PK	LOUIS PEREZ, UCLA	5-9/195	Sr.
P	TOMMY THOMPSON, Oregon	5-10/185	Jr.

Outlook: It sounds like a movie. World's most famous and respected pro football coach helps one of his longtime aides (Dennis Green) become coach of the Minnesota Vikings and then steps out of the semi-retirement of the broadcast booth to take the Stanford reins from Green. "I'm returning to my bliss," he says upon inheriting an experienced, talented team, which he whips into championship form and leads to the Rose Bowl (Stanford's first in two decades). A nice story line, eh? Well, it could happen.

Offensive strengths: The offensive line, even without NFL-bound Bob Whitfield, rates with the best in the country, and quarterback Steve Stenstrom knows what to do with the time the line will give him. Mostly, Stenstrom will get the ball to running back Glyn Milburn, who has few peers in the open field.

Offensive weaknesses: The receiving corps is young and got bogged down by injury in the spring. Inadequate receivers and no power back to replace Tommy Vardell could allow defenses to zero in on the elusive Milburn.

Defensive strengths: Ron George and Dave Garnett are the Pac-10's best bookend linebackers, and eight other returning starters should pick up where they left off.

Defensive weaknesses: In the latter half of the 1991 season, there weren't many. Depth, however, is shaky in most areas. Special teams: Dangerous returner Milburn led the nation in all-purpose yardage in 1990. Punting and place-kicking

Key to success: Receivers must step up so opponents can't and won't focus on Milburn.

Sure sign of trouble: An ailing Milburn. He probably is the most valuable player in the league because of all the things he can do. To say the Cardinal will count on him heavily is an understatement.

Coach Bill Walsh says: "We expect to use Glyn much like we did Darrin Nelson (15 years ago) as a runner and receiver.

have been weak overall.

SOUTHERN CAL

Coach: Larry Smith (38-20-2, 5 years; 104-75-5 overall, 16 years), 1891 resort 3-8. Pac-10:2-6/8th. Key losses: Ren Dale, P; Derrick Deese, OT; Matt Gee, LB; Calvin Holmes, CB; Michael Moody, OT. Gee, LB; Calvin Holmes, CB; Michael Moody, OT. Starters raturalgs: Offesse (9): Wes Bender, FB, 6-0/245, Sr.; Tony Boselli, T, 6-7/275, Soph.; Curtis Conway, FL, 6-2/180. Jr.; Craig: Gibson, C, 6-3/245, Jr.; Yonnie Jackson, TE, 6-2/250, Sr.; Johnnie Morton; SE, 6-0/195; Jr.; Reggie Perry, OB, 6-2/200. Jr.; Kris: Pollack; G/T, 6-5/275, Soph.; Deon Strother, TB, 6-0/200, Jr.; Betease (9): Mike Hinz, NG, 6-3/260, Jr.; Lamont Hollinquest, LB, 6-3/225, Sr.; Terry McDaniels, T; 6-4/265, Jr.; Wille McGinest, LB, 6-6/230, Jr.; Gidton Murrell, LB, 6-4/235, Jr.; Jason Oliver, CB, 5-11/180, Jr.; Stephon Pace, S, 6-0/190, Sr.; Mike Salmon, S, 6-1/200, Jr.; David Webb, T/LB, 6-4/225, Sr. Kickers (1): Cole Ford, K, 6-3/295, Soph. Other toy returness: Bradford Banta, TE, Jr.; Estrus Crayton, TB, Sr.; Joel Crisman, OG/OT, Jr.; Travis Hannah, FL, Sr.; Clay Hattabaugh, OG, Soph.; Jerald Henry, CB, Soph.; Thomas Holland, NG, Jr.; Rob Johnson, OB, Soph.; Jeff Kopp.; LB, Soph.; Jasen Uhl, OT, Jr.; Larry Wallace, FL/SE, Sr.; Brian Williams, LB, Soph.

nams, Lb, Sopn.

Top sewscomers: Joe Barry, LB, Jr. (transfer/Michigan); Gerald Caruthers, LB, Jr. (JC); Scott Fields, TB/S, Fr.; Robert Loya, OG, Fr. (RS/neck); Dwight McFadden, TB, Fr. (RS); Micah Phillips, CB, Fr.; Kyle Ramsay, C, Fr. (RS); Jason Sehorn, FL/SE, Jr. (JC); John Stonehouse, P, Fr.; Kyle Wachholtz, OB; Fr. (RS); Denard Walker; S, Fr.; Shawn Walters, TB, Fr.

Behedule: At San Diego State, Sept. 5; at Oklahoma, Sept. 19; at Washington, Oct. 3; Oregon, Oct. 10; California, Oct. 17; Washington State, Oct. 24; at Arizona State, Oct. 31; at Stanford, Nov. 7; Arl-zona, Nov. 14; at UCLA, Nov. 21; Notré Dame, Nov. 28.

Nickname: Trojans. Site: Los Angeles.

Outlook: The Trojans have won just three of their last 13 games, which is an astounding reversal from the 35-9-1 stretch they enjoyed to that point. Having endured only two losing seasons in the last 30 years, Southern Cal can be expected to bounce back strongly, albeit against arguably the nation's most difficult schedule.

Offensive strengths: The receiving corps has some of the fastest players in college football, the tailback situation is better than it has been in a decade and Tony Boselli leads a solid line.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Reggie Perry was interception-prone last season (four for every touchdown pass), which is why sophomore Rob Johnson was able to steal the starting job in the spring.

Defensive strengths: There aren't many, but coordinator Chris Allen hopes to change that with the aggressive blitzing package that has become the rage. Inconsistent linebacker Willie McGinest has the physical tools of a

Defensive weaknesses: The line was pushed around at times last season. Also, the secondary allowed opponents to complete 54.9 percent of their passes for 16 touchdowns (with only 11 interceptions).

Special teams: Curtis Conway returned two kicks for TDs in 1991, but both were called back. He has speed to burn, but the kicking and punting are question-

Key to success: McGinest, or someone else, must stand up as a force on an otherwise faceless defense that has lacked big-play people for two years.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Trojans don't come close to doubling their '91 average of two sacks per game, the defense will spend a long time on the field.

Coach Larry Smith says: "We're trying to get back up there and regain our true identity. We're a USC team, but I don't think people respect us anymore.'

CALIFORNIA

Coach: Keith Gilbertson (first year: 28-9 over-

Coach: Keith Gilbertson (first year; 28-9 overall; 3 years).

1991 reserf: 10-2 (boat Clemson in Florida Citrus Bowl). Pac-10:6-2/172nd.

Key losses: Troy Auzenne, OT; Cornell Coiller, LB; Steve Gordon, C; Mike Pawlawski, QB; Ryan Perry, DT; Daryl Pessler, OG; Brian Treggs, WR; Jason Wilborn, LB; David Wilson, S.

Starters returning: Giffnee (8): Mike Caldwell, SB, 6-2/205, Jr.; Sean Dawkins, WR, 6-4/205, Jr.; Erio Mahlum, C/G, 6-5/270, Jr.; Todd Steussle, T, 6-6/290, Jr.; Russell White, TB, 6-0/210, Sr.; Greg Zomalt, FB, 6-2/215, Sr. Extense (7): Chid' Ahanotu, E, 6-2/270, Sr.; Wolf Barber, CB, 6-0/185, Sr.; Mick Barsala, LB, 6-2/230; Sr.; Ctris Cannon, 6-1/190, Sr.; Mack Travis, T. 6-2/285, Sr.; Jerrett Willard, LB, 6-2/235, Soph.; Eric Zomait, S, 6-0/185, Jr. Kirkers (2): Doug Brien, K, 6-0/170, Jr.; Chris Noonan, P, 6-2/195, Sr.

Oliur kay returnees: Dave Barr, QB, Soph., Jr.; Brad Bowers, DE, Soph.; Darryl Brown, S, Jr.; Chris Carpenter, TE, Jr.; Damish Cemien, WR; Jr.; Lindsey Chapmen, TB, Jr.; Michael Davis, S, Jr.; Nate Fowler, OB, Soph. (RS/academics); Paul Joiner, LB, Soph.; Perry Klein, QB, Jr.; Brad Monahan, DT, Soph.; Scott Roseman, DE, Sr.; Brian Thure, OL, Soph.

Soph.; Scott Roseman, DE, Sr.; Brian Thure, OL,

Tep sewconers: Todd Blackwell, OG, Jr. (JC); Ike Booth, DB, Jr. (JC); Jerod Cherry, S, Fr. (RS); Michael Eaglin, WR. Fr. (RS); Randy Nonhof, OT,

Schedule: San Jose State, Sept. 5; at Purdue, Sept. 12; at Kansas, Sept. 26; Oregon State, Oct. 3; at Washington, Oct. 10; at Southern California, Oct. 17; Arizona, Oct. 24; UCLA, Oct. 31; at Oregon, Nov. 7; at Arizona State, Nov. 14; Stanford, Nov.

Nickmane: Golden Bèars. Site: Berkeley, Calif.

Outlook: New Coach Keith Gilbertson brings along a laid-back style that should fit well in Berkeley-as long as the Golden Bears keep winning. The 13 returning starters know what to do, as attested by the Bears' 10-2 overall record of a year ago. Staff members have a good idea, too, as they sport national championship rings from six schools in prior assignments.

Offensive strengths: Few teams in the country have a better group of running backs and receivers. Russell White is seeking his third 1,000-yard season, but



Trojan front man: Offensive tackle Tony Boselli leads a solid USC line.

speedy Lindsey Chapman will get the ball, too. Sean Dawkins (11 touchdown catches) is one of the best all-around wideouts anywhere.

Offensive weaknesses: Will sophomore quarterback Dave Barr get time to distribute the ball? The line must be rebuilt around Todd Steussie and Eric Mahlum, and Barr has done nothing in college football vet.

Defensive strengths: A strong nucleus of seven returning starters includes two of the league's best in tackle Mack Travis and inside linebacker Mick Barsala.

Defensive weaknesses: Now-departed free safety David Wilson was one of the steadiest players on the team. His replacement might be a converted tailback, Darryl Brown.

Special teams: The Bears are the best in the league in most respects. Doug Brien won two games with late field goals in a banner '91 season (19 field goals in 28 at-

Key to success: The offensive line must come together quickly because a rookie quarterback can't be counted on to weather too much pressure.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Bears fail to win at least three of their first four games. The softest part of the schedule is in the opening month, and the Bears' bowl hopes would diminish with a slow start

Coach Keith Gilbertson says: "The reputation of being the bad-mouth Bears I'm not comfortable with. If we're the badass Bears, that's different."

ARIZONA STATE

Coach: Bruce Snyder (first year; 68-61-5 overall, 12 years). 1991 record: 6-5. Pac., 10: 4-4/5th Kry Josses: Shane Collins, DT; David Dixon, NG;

Kelvin Fisher, FB; Tim Landers, G; Arthur Paul, DT;

Mike Ritter, OT: Phillippi Sparks, CB: Jeff, White: G: Michael Willams, S; Darren Woodsch, LB: Michael Willams, S; Darren Woodsch, LB: Starters returning, Offense: [7]: Bob Brasher, TE, 6-5/236, Sr.; Eric Guliford; SE, 5-8/460, Sr.; Toby-Mills, C, 6-3/270, Jr.; Beorge Montgomery, TB, 8-2/210, Jr.; Bret: Powers, OB, 6-5/220, Jr.; Craig-Ritter, T, 6-4/274, Sr.; Kevin Snyder, FL, 5-8/162, Sr. Datasse [6]: Adam Brass, S, 5-10/186, Sr.; Justin Oregoo, LB, 6-2/229, Soph.; Bryan Hooks, T, 6-3/256; Sr.; Kevin Minleffeld, CB, 5-9/177, Sr.; Brett Wallerstedt, LB, 6-1/239, Sr. Klicker [2]: Steve Rausch, P, 6-2/194, Sr.; Mike Richey, K, 5-10/185; Sr.

Oly 185, 57.

Olher key returness: Marto Bates, TB, Soph; Jean Boyd, S, Sr.; Shante Carven, DE, Jr.; Parinell-Charles, FB, Soph.; Gavin Hill, DE, Sr. (RS7kines); Jeff Kysar, OL, Soph.; Peter Marine, WR, Jr.; Lenny, McGill., CB, Jr.; Kendall: Rhyns, S, Soph; Israel Stanfey, OL, Sr. (RS7kines); Marquis, Tucker, TE, Soph; DeMario Vaughn, OL, Soph.

Tep assessmer: Carlos Artis, WR, Soph. (Prop 48); Grady, Benton, OB, Fr. (RS); Eric Harvey, OL, Jr.; (JC); Danfel Hunt, OL, Fr.; Garrick McGev, OB, Fr. (RS); Kirk Robertson, OL, Fr.; Juan Roque, OL, Fr.; Moses Tauteoll, LB, Jr.; (transfer/Utah); Farrington Toplaj, OL, Jr.; (JC).

Schulds: Washlington, Sept. 5; Louisville, Sept. 49, at Nebraska, Sept. 29; at Oregon, Oct. 3; Pacific, Oct. 10; Oregon State, Oct. 11; at UCLA, Oct. 24; Southern Cal, Oct. 3; at Washlington State, Noy. 7; California, Noy, 14; at Arzona, Noy. 23; Mickeyne; Sun Oavils, Site, Temper Artz.

Outlook: The Sun Devils have been running in place (29-25-2) since winning the 1986 Pac-10 title. They're counting on new Coach Bruce Snyder to give them an infusion of excitement as well as success. Larry Marmie left him 12 starters with whom to build around.

Offensive strengths: There is speed, experience and depth at tailback, and split end Eric Guliford has the league's best hands.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Bret Powers was inconsistent in 1991 and will be hard pressed to hold off redshirt freshmen Garrick McGee and Grady Benton. The line is inexperi-

enced, meaning the quarterback winner might have to scramble.

Defensive strengths: New coordinator Rod Marinelli plans to turn up the tempo, just as he did in upgrading Cal's defense. The secondary was fine last season and should be able to handle increased man-to-man responsibilities. Kevin Miniefield, especially, could flourish in the new scheme.

Defensive weaknesses: Three 1991 defensive linemen were drafted by the NFL, which left Marinelli moving players around in search of athletes to put into three- and four-point stances.

Special teams: Punter Steve Rausch and place-kicker Mike Richey are adequate. And with league-leading punt returner Guliford coming back, Arizona State should have an edge over most opponents.

Key to success: Patching together competitive units on both sides of the ball and getting a quarterback who won't turn the ball over.

Sure sign of trouble: Arizona State has notoriously fair-weather fans, so if the Sun Devils aren't drawing 60,000 consistently, it means things aren't going well.

Coach Bruce Snyder says: "It isn't good for either team or for the conference race or anybody else to start the season with a league game (the Sun Devils open against Washington). That's something I'd like to see us address as a league."

WASHINGTON ST.

Coach: Mike Rrice (18-20, 3 years; 59-64

Csaeh: Mike: Rfice: (13-20, 3. years; 59:64 overall, 11 years).

1991 recent: 4-7-Pac-10:3:5/T6th. Key tesses: Jason: Hanson, K/P; Anthony: Prior; S. Lee Tilleman, DE; Kirk: Westerfield: DT: Michael Wrighi, CB.

Surtura: returning: Offices: (11): Draw Bledsoe; DB.

6-6/224, Jr.; Philip Bobo, SB, 5:11/166; Jk; CJ.

Davis, SE, 5:11/184, Sr.; Josh: Dumning, G; 6-3/280, Sr.; Beron: Pointer, SE, 5-11/178, Jr.; Clarenco Williams, TE, 6-2/236; Sr.; Steve-Wolfe, C; 6-4/300, Sr.; Deron: Pointer, SE, 5-11/178, Jr.; Clarenco Williams, TE, 6-2/236; Sr.; Steve-Wolfe, C; 6-4/300, Sr.; Shaumbe Wright-Fair, RB, 6-0/239, Sr.; Christrant, T. 6-3/273, Sr.; Torey: Hunter, CB, 5-10/173, Soph.; Kurl Loertscher, LB, 6-5/219, Sr.; Anthony: McClanehan, LB, 6-1/212, Jr.; DeWayne Patterson, E, 6-1/242, Soph.; John Rushing, S. 5-10/188, Soph.; Rushura: None.

Other boy returness: Michael Balloy, OT, Jr.; Albert Kennedy, WR, Soph.; Singer Mobley, S. Soph.; Constantino Romaro, DT, Sr.; (RS/academics); Todd Shaw, OT, Soph.; Andy Tribble, OT, Sr.; (RS/knes).

knes).

Yig arrestant: Mark Fields, LB, Jr. (JC); Chrish Hayes, S, Fr. (RS): Darrick Hentz, LB; Fr. (RS); Stove Johnston; P. Jr. (JC); Sandana Lewis; WR, Fr. (RS); Eric Moore, TE, Fr. (RS); Share Peterson, DE; Fr. (RS); Don Sasa; LB, Soph; (JC); Sedric Shorter, DE; Jr. (JC); Robert Turner, CB, Jr. (JC); James Witkowski, OL, Fr. (RS); Sebotate: Montana, Sept. 5; at Artzona, Sept. 12; at Fresno, State, Sept. 26; Temple, Oct. 3; at Oregon State, Oct. 10; UCIA; Oct. 17; at Southern Cal, Oct. 24; Oregon, Oct. 3; Artzona State, Nov. 7; at Stanford, Nov. 14; Washington, Nov. 21; Illstaner Cougars, Bite Pullman, Wash.

Site: Püliman, Wash.

Outlook: This season will be a turning point-one way or the other-for Coach Mike Price and the Cougars. This is

Price's fourth season in Pullman, and victories have been few and interest in the team has been lagging. But with Drew Bledsoe leading an offense of 11 returning starters, there's no telling what the Cougars might do.

Offensive strengths: Bledsoe has all the physical tools, and receivers Phillip Bobo and tight end Clarence Williams can be unstoppable at times.

Offensive weaknesses: The line. While back intact, it hasn't blocked very well in the past.

Defensive strengths: There are some young players who can really run (safeties John Rushing and Singor Mobley, defensive end Lewis Bush), and Anthony McClanahan is one of the league's most underrated linebackers.

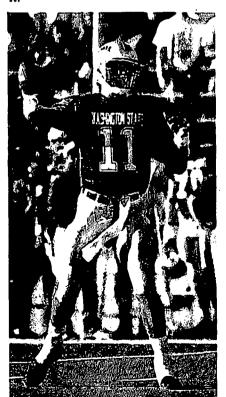
Defensive weaknesses: The front is undersized and inexperienced, the secondary is still too young and the linebacking corps isn't very physical.

Special teams: Jason Hanson is gone, along with his 65-yard field-goal attempts and 50-yard punts.

Key to success: Staying out of third-andlong situations would do wonders for Bledsoe and the offense, as well as keep the defense off the field.

Sure sign of trouble: Take note of how many lame screen passes Price finds it. necessary to call. If it's more than two or three a game, oh boy.

Coach Mike Price says: "I'm going to let Drew Bledsoe's actions speak louder than my words. Everyone else is recognizing his talents, so I don't have to do it."



Unpredictability in Pullman: With Drew Bledsoe leading an offense of 11 returning starters, there's no telling what the Cougars might do.

Ceash: Rich Brocks (71-93-4, 15 years).
1991 recent: 3-8: Pac-10: 1-7/79th.
Rey Jesses: James Bautista, LB; Bud Bowle, O6;
Andy Conner, LB; Todd Gydesen, OT; MattLaBounty, DE; Gregg McCallum, K; Muhammad Ollver, CB; Greg Phillips, C; Daryle Smith, CB; Jeff
Thomason, TE; Marcus Woods, NT.

Thomason, TE: Marcus Woods, NT.

Starters returning: Offesse [7]: David Collinsworth,

I. 6-4/285, Sr.; Ronnie Harris, SE, 5-10/170, Sr.;

Anthony Jones, FL, 5-11/187, Sr.; Donovan Moore, TB, 6-0/190, Sr.; Danny O'Nell, OB, 6-2/175, Soph.; Juan Shedrick, FB, 6-2/228, Jr.; Jon Tattersall, G, 6-4/285, Sr. Ditase [8]: Romeo Bandison, E, 6-5/272, Jr.; Eric Castle, S, 6-3/208, Sr.; Chad Cota, S, 6-1/183, Soph.; Terrell, Edwards, LB, 6-2/226, Jr.; Joe Farwell, LB, 6-2/210, Sr.; Ernest Jones, LB, 6-2/222, Jr.; Klekers [1]: Tommy Thompson, P, 5-10/185, Jr.

Other key returness: Sean Burwell, TB, Jr.; Jeff Cummins, DE, Sr. (RS/medical); Tom Curran, C, Jr.; Derrick Deadwiler, FL, Jr. (RS); Vince Ferry, TE, Sr.; Steve Hardin, OT, Soph.; Deven Hosey, CB, Sr. (RS); Eugene Jackson, CB, Soph.; Sillia Malepsal, NT, Jr.; Matt Martin, OT, Jr.; Doug Musgrave; CB, Jr.; Paul Rodriguez, S. Sr.

Jr. Paul Rodriguez S. Sr. Tep assistant: Jeremy Asher, LB, Fr. (RS); Mike DiFonzo, C. Jr. (JC); Alex Molden, CB, Fr. (RS); Justin Starck, OT, Jr. (JC); Ricky Whittle, TB, Fr.

Schedule: Hawali, Sept. 5; at Stanford, Sept. 12; Texas: Tech, Sept. 19; UNLV, Sept. 26; Artzona State, Oct. 3; at Southern Cal, Oct. 10; Washington, Oct. 17; at Washington State, Oct. 31; California, Nov. 7; UCLA, Nov. 14; at Oregon State, Nov. 21. Mickeama: Duck Site: Eugene, Cre.

Outlook: This is a critical season for the Ducks to prove to themselves and others that 1991 was merely an injurycaused setback rather than a giant step backward. Injuries galore occurred last year, when five quarterbacks were called upon. But now, 29 players have some degree of starting experience.

Offensive strengths: Sean Burwell leads an increasingly deep group of running hacks.

Offensive weaknesses: The line needs some big-time improvement to become just average. Quarterbacks Dan O'Neil and Doug Musgrave have ability, but they were nothing to get excited about even before they got hurt last season.

Defensive strengths: Safety Eric Castle is an All-America candidate. Ends Romeo Bandison and Jeff Cummins have the ability to dictate how offenses play.

Defensive weaknesses: Marginal experience abounds in the linebacking corps, where three projected starters were part-timers last year.

Special teams: All things considered, Tommy Thompson probably is the league's best punter. He'll try to handle the place-kicking duties, too.

Key to success: Somehow, the Ducks recovered only five opponent fumbles last season, which left them with a terrible turnover ratio. That must change dramatically.

Sure sign of trouble: After making plenty of deposits in the injury bank last year, Oregon should get to live off the interest this year. If not, the Ducks could be in for a long season.

Coach Rich Brooks says: "We need to get back to being a more aggressive defense and take the ball away more, particularly with the new rule that allows the return of all fumbles."

9/ARIZONA

Coach: Dick Tomey (30-24-3, 5 years; 93-70-6 overall, 15 years). 1991 record: 4-7. Pac-10: 3-5/T6th.

Key losses: John Fina, OT; Nick Fineanganolo, G; Richard Holt, CB; Bobby Roland, S; Paul Tofflemire,

6. Starters returning: Offesse (9): Ontiwaum Carter, TB, 5-9/171, Soph.; Richard Griffith, TE, 6-5/256, Sr.; Mike Heemsbergen, 8, 6-4/287, Sr.; Billy Johnson, FB, 5-10/196, Jr.; Charles Levy, QB, 6-0/197, Soph.; Lamar Lovett, WR, 5-9/175, Soph.; Mani Ott, C, 6-3/255, Soph.; Paul Stamer, T, 6-3/239, Soph.; Terry Vaughn, WR, 5-8/170, Jr. Extesse (9): Heath Bray, S (will move to WR/QB), 6-3/209, Sr.; Tony Boule, S, 5-10/180, Soph.; Sean Harris, LB, 6-3/235, Soph.; Jimmle Hopkins, E, 6-5/254, Jr.; Jamai Lee, LB, 6-2/215, Sr.; Darryl Morrison, CB, 5-11/187, Sr.; Ty Parten, T, 6-6/271, Sr.; Mike Scurlock, S, 5-11/198, Soph.; Rob Waldrop, NG, 6-2/263, Jr. Klekers (2): Adam Grand, P, 6-1/177, Sr.; Steye McLaughlin, K, 6-0/198, Soph.

Other key retermees: Charlie Camp, LB, Seph.; Hich-em: El-Mashtoub; DT, Soph.; Jim Hoffman, DT, Soph.; Keshon Johnson, CB, Sr.; Jay Kirchoff, K, Sr.; Richard Maddox, LB, Sr.; George Malauulu, OB, Sr.; Josh Miller, P. Sr.; Pulu Poumele, DL, Jr.;

Mu Tagoal, OT, Soph.
Top newscares: Tamasi Amituanal, DL, Jr. (JC): Top avecures: Tamasi Amituanal, DL, Jr. (JC); Brant Boyer, LB, Jr. (JC); Tedy Bruschi, DT, Fr. (RS/thumb); Demetryst Cornish, FB. Jr. (JC); Robert Coulter, FB, Fr. (RS); Troy Dickey, WR, Jr. (JC); Akil Jackson, LB, Jr. (JC); Shawn Jarrett, LB, Jr. (RS); Frie Johnson, OL, Jr. (JC); Tommy Jones, WR, Jr. (JC); Chuck Osborne, DL, Fr.; Brandon Sanders; S, Fr. (RS); Chris Stetz, DL, Sr. (JC); Gary Taylor, TB, Fr.; Armon Williams, DB, Fr.; Spencer Wray, DB, Jr. (JC).
Schotfis: Utah State, Sept. 5; Washington State, Sept. 12; at Oregon State, Sept. 19; at Miami (Fla.), Sept. 26; UCLA, Oct. 3; at Stanford, Oct. 17; at California, Oct. 24; New Mexico State, Oct. 31; Washington, Nov. 7; at Southern Cai, Nov. 14; Ari-

Washington, Nov. 7; at Southern Cal, Nov. 14; Ari-

zona State, Nov. 21. Nickname: Wildcats. -Sile: Tucson, Ariz.

Outlook: The key statistic in Arizona's 1991 season was nine-as in major surgeries to starting players (the total was five more than in the previous four years combined). The Wildcats are counting on a number of injuries to heal quickly and also are looking for some help from junior college transfers.

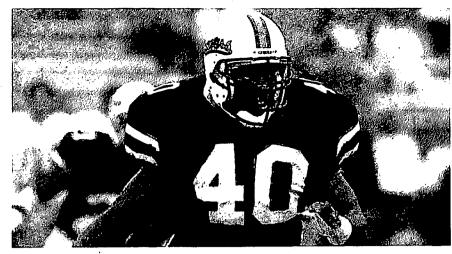
Offensive strengths: If fullback Billy Johnson returns from a torn Achilles tendon, the running backs are among the league's best, with former quarterback Charles Levy joining Ontiwaun Carter at tailback.

Offensive weaknesses: Four sophomores are ticketed to start on the line. Defensive strengths: Richard Maddox, Rob Waldrop and Tedy Bruschi are all front-liners who missed most of 1991 because of injuries. They are back-and so is tackle Ty Parten.

Defensive weaknesses: The secondary was ineffective at times last season, although an anemic pass rush was at least partly to blame. The linebackers, however, are green and generally unimpressive.

Special teams: Levy (kickoffs) and receiver Terry Vaughn (punts) are dynamite return men. Arizona covers kicks well but needs more length on its own punts and field goals.

Key to success: If quarterback George



Contributing to the cause: Oregon State's defensive line figures to be decent because of players like end Rickey Fizer.

Malauulu can stay uninjured for a whole season, the Wildcats could make use of their quick receivers and balance the offense for a change.

Sure sign of trouble: If Levy has to play quarterback again (due to a Malauulu injury), the Wildcats will lose one of their best running backs and take a step down in passing accuracy.

Coach Dick Tomey says: "The last two years, George has been on the verge of being a real fine Pac-10 quarterback. Now in his fifth year, I hope that's going to happen.'

10/OREGON STATE

Cozzk: Jerry Pettibone (1-10, 1 year: 34-42-1 overall, 7 years). 1991 record: 1-10. Pac-10: 1-7/T9th.

Key losses: Jason Blum, TE; Corey Brannon, DT; Brent Huff, CB/S; Tom Nordquist, C; Mark Price,

LB; Todd Sahlfeld, LB.

Starters returning: Offense (9): Adam Albaugh, G, 6-Starters returning: Unitary (1): Addin Anadyn, (1, 6-5/272, Jr.; Jason Downs, T. 6-1/280, Sr.; John Garrett, T. 6-4/255, Soph.; Fletcher Kelster, G. 6-4/284, Sr.; Christian Miller, C. 6-4/274, Jr.; Chris Merten, FB, 5-10/220, Soph.; Chad Paulsen, HB, 6-1/197, Jr.; Maurice Wilson, WR, 5-8/173, Sr.; J.J. Young, FB, 5-10/182, Soph. Dates: [8]: Zechariah Davis, CB, 5-11/178, Sr.; Dennis Edwards & 5-1/14, W. William Februin (1): wards, S, 6-1/211, Jr.; William Ephraim, CB, 5-10/160, Soph.; Rickey Fizer, E, 6-4/236, Sr.; Michael Hale, S, 5-11/193, Soph.; Rico Petrini, DB, 6-2/214, Soph.; Sallusi Pouliyaati, T, 6-2/273, Sr.; Chad de Sully, E, 6-4/246, Jr. Kiekers [2]: Jamie Burke, K, 6-0/191, Jr.; Tim Kollas, P, 5-11/189,

Other key returness: Jason Barry, HB, Soph.; Thomas Bookman, DT, Jr.; Herschel Currie, S, Jr. (RS); Tom Holmes, DT, Soph.; Cory Huot, LB, Soph.; Tony O'Billovich, LB, Jr.; Mark Olford, QB,

Soph. Top newcemers: Chris Cross, WR. Fr. (RS); David Crowfield, TE, Jr. (JC); Doug Cunningham, FB, Jr. (JC); Andre Devezin, CB, Soph. (transfer/Long Beach State); Roman Foster, OB, Jr. (JC); Alal Kalaniuvalu, OG, Jr. (JC); David Klepke, DE, Fr. (RS); Phil Laffer, OG, Fr. (RS); Starling Latu, OT, Jr. (JC); Ryan Palma, S, Fr. (RS); Jason Paloma, LB, Fr. (RS); Ray Penniman, TE, Jr. (JC); Kane Rogers, LB, Fr. (RS); David Stewart, FB, Fr. (RS); Parallel Congret CF. (RS);

Reginald Tongue, CB, Fr. (RS). Schedule: Kansas, Sept. 5; Fresno State, Sept. 12; Arizona, Sept. 19; at Utah, Sept. 26; at California, Oct. 3; Washington State, Oct. 10; at Arizona State, Oct. 17; Stanford, Oct. 24; at UCLA, Nov. 7; at Washington, Nov. 14; Oregon, Nov. 21.

Micknama: Beavers. Site: Corvallis, Ore.

Outlook: The Beavers roll in on a ninemonth winning streak, having stopped a 15-game losing string with a seasonending victory over Oregon. But it now has been 21 years since Oregon State last posted a winning record, and it no doubt will take a few more seasons before a breakthrough occurs. Secondyear Coach Jerry Pettibone is trying to build a solid foundation. And with 17 returning starters, strides are possible in

Offensive strengths: The three running back positions in the flexbone have talent and depth. Halfbacks Chad Paulsonand Jason Barry averaged 6.7 and 5.5 yards per carry, respectively, last year. Offensive weaknesses: A complete lack of a passing attack left the Beavers with the league's worst offense (214 yards per game) in more than a decade. The same poor passers and protectors return, so Pettibone hopes older means hetter.

Defensive strengths: Saliusi Poulivaati (15 tackles for losses in 1991), Rickey Fizer (seven sacks) and Chad de Sully could form a decent line. Sophomore linebacker Rico Petrini appears to be a real discovery.

Defensive weaknesses: Like most areas, the secondary possesses experience but has a long way to go.

Special teams: The Beavers are a legitimate Pac-10 team in the kicking game, rating in the middle of the league in virtually all categories.

Key to success: One of the quarterbacks-Mark Olford, Ian Shields, Don Shanklin, Roman Foster or Sedrick Thomas—must step up and offer at least some passing threat to go with the option. Oregon State ran the ball 620 times last season and passed it a mere 82 times.

Sure sign of trouble: If they don't win early—the Beavers start the season with home games against Kansas, Fresno State and Arizona—Pettibone's athletes could start another long losing streak.

Coach Jerry Pettibone says: "It's going to take time, but we can do it."

SCOUTTE PACE CO

Ascending: Stanford. How many places lose a coach to the National Football League and replace him with his mentor, who has won three Super Bowls? Dennis Green built what appears to be a solid foundation on The

Best offensive line:

Best offensive backfield:

Best backup quarterback:

Bast wide receivers:

Washington State

Best einteh raceiver:

Bost dafansive line:

HCI A

Sean LaChapelle, UCLA

Mark Brunell, Washington

Stanford

Washington

Farm, and Bill Walsh will take it from there. California is on the way up, too, although a 10-victory season last year doesn't cut the Golden Bears much slack. Descending: Southern California. Just two years ago, the Trojans entered the season seeking their fourth consecutive Pacific-10

title, but they have been nose-diving since. They are 11-11-1 in the last two years and enter 1992 amid a six-game losing streak.

Nightmare schedule: Southern Cal. If their situation isn't tough enough, the Trojans face teams that went 83-46-1 last season en route to seven bowl games. Every team in the Pac-10 misses one other league member in the eight-game, almost-round-robin schedule, and the Trojans miss none other than Oregon State.

Dream schedule: Washington. Even though the Huskies face Nebraska, it's their only tough non-conference game and they get the Cornhuskers in Seattle. They also get virtually every Pac-10 contender at home and don't play UCLA. Cal isn't far behind, starting off with three very winnable nonleague games and Oregon State.

Best matchup of the year: UCLA at California on October 31. After going 18 years without a victory over the Bruins, the Bears have won two in a row, including a wild 27-24 decision last year. For the second straight year, Washington vs. UCLA is the best matchup that will not be played.

Worst matchup of the year: Again, Oregon State vs. Washington on November 14. Last season, they got together in the worst intraconference mismatch in Pac-10 history, pitting the 9-0 Huskies against the 0-9 Beavers. The Huskies won, 58-6.

Shocker of the year: Oregon bumping off Washington on October 17 in Eugene, ending what will be a 19-game Huskies winning streak and throwing the Rose Bowl race into a blender.

Bowl bound: Washington, UCLA and Stanford figure to be the top contenders for the Rose Bowl and a bowl alliance spot (runner-up). The Freedom Bowl will get the third-place team (one of the above, California or Southern Cal). And four other teams enter '92 believing the Aloha, Copper or

Hancock bowls are within reach. Biggest shoes to fill: Those belonging to Washington defensive tackle Steve Emtman, who became the first player picked in the 1992 NFL draft instead of

HONOR ROLL

Best-kitting defensive lineman: Mack Travis, California Best ileebackers: Washington Best-kitting linebacker: Jaime Fields, Washington Best secendary: Washington Bost-hitting defensive back: Tommle Smith, Washington Best kicking game: California

Best kick - coverage galts: Best coaching staff: Oregon Best coach: Don James, Washington Best Heisman candidate: Glyn Milburn, RB, Stanford Best pro prespect: Drew Bledsoe, QB, Washington State

playing his senior season. His replacement, D'Marco Farr, would have been a starter next to Emtman, anyway, so he isn't completely overwhelmed. As he says, "The only way I can top him is to win the Heisman Trophy." The

same probably could be said for Wayne Cook and Derron Klafter, who will take over, respectively, for UCLA quarterback Tommy Maddox and Stanford offensive tackle Bob Whitfield, two others who left school early and became NFL first-round picks.

Most underrated

player: Dave Garnett, OLB, Stanford. With Ron George getting alleverything honors on the other side. the only people who notice Garnett are opposing offensive coordinators. Impact newcomers: Eric Abrams, PK,

Stanford, Fr.; Tamasi Amituanai, DE, Arizona, Jr. (JC); Kwame Ellis, RB, Stanford, Fr.; Randy Nonhof, OT, California, Jr. (JC); Ricky Whittle, TB, Oregon, Fr. (RS).

Coach of the year: Don James, Washington. Despite heavy manpower losses. James' team still is a strong Pac-10 title candidate, which means he has been doing something right.

Coach on the hot seat: Larry Smith, Southern Cal. See "Descending" and "Nightmare schedule," above, and combine them with Southern Cal's expectations. Clearly, another 3-8 season would not do. Washington State's Mike Price receives honorable mention for the indifference being displayed by Cougar fans (attendance plummeted in 1991).

Best bets: Estrus Crayton will not finish the season as Southern Cal's starting tailback. Three years in a row, the third-stringer (this time redshirt freshman Dwight McFadden) has risen to No. 1 by season's end. . . . The winner of the Southern Cal-Washington game on October 3 will go to the Rose Bowl, as it has after 11 of their last 15 meetings.

Odds and ends: Don James may be the dean of Pac-10 coaches, but consider that Oregon's Rich Brooks has seen 23 coaching changes in the league since he was hired in 1977. . . . Since Bill Walsh became Stanford coach in '77, five Cardinal coaches have stayed for an average of only 34 games. . . . Last April, Washington wide receiver Travis Spring, a redshirt freshman, died of complications related to cancer. The Huskies have dedicated their season to his memory.

-DON BORST

RETURNING LEADERS

Bushlog: Kevin Williams, UCLA, 108.9 yds./ game (168 att., 1,089 yds., 8 TDs, 6.5 avg.).
Pessing efficiency: Steve Stenstrom, Stanford, 150.2 rating pts. (197 att., 119 comp., 1,683 vds., 15 TDs).

Total offerse: Drew Bledsoe, Washington State, 240.6 yds./game (-94 yds. rushing, 2,741 yds. passing, 2,647 total yds.).

Receiving: Sean LaChapelle, UCLA, 6.2 rec./ game (68 rec., 987 yds., 11 TDs, 14.5 avg.). Scoring: Russell White, California, 8.9 pts./ game (16 TDs, 1 2-pt. PAT, 0 FGs, 98 pts.) and Doug Brien, California, 8.9 pts./game (O TDs, 41 PATS, 19 FGs, 98 pts.).

Punting: Chris Noonan, California, 40.0 avg. (44 punts, 1,758 yds.).

Punt returns: Eric Guliford, Arizona State, 11.9 avg. (15 att., 178 yds., 1 TD).

Kickoff returns: Charles Levy, Arizona, 25.2 avg. (27 att., 682 yds., 0 TDs) Field gests: Doug Brien, California, 1.7 FG/game (19/28 FGs, 68%).

Interceptions: Cariton Gray, UCLA, 0.91 int./ game (10 int., 119 yds., 1 TD).



Ready to explode: Charles Levy of Arizona is a dynamite kickoff-return

SEC treks boldly where no league has gone before

By TONY BARNHART Atlanta Journal-Constitution

aptain Kirk and the crew of the Starship Enterprise have nothing on the Southeastern Conference, which in 1992 will boldly go where no league has gone before.

In an experiment being watched by the rest of college football, the SEC will expand to 12 teams, adding Arkansas and South Carolina, and will split into two six-team divisions, the Eastern and Western. Each school will play all five of its divisional foes along with two permanent and one rotating non-divisional opponent each year. The division champions will meet in the first SEC title game in Birmingham, Ala., on December 5, with the winner advancing to the Sugar Bowl.

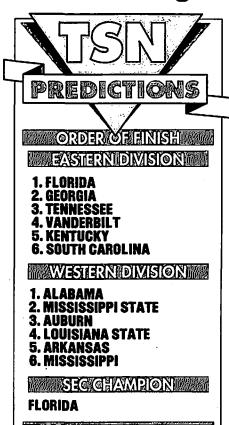
"I don't think any of us knows what to expect because we've never gone through anything like this before," Georgia Coach Ray Goff said. "But one thing's for sure: It's going to be interesting.'

Other new items on the SEC bill of fare for 1992 include:

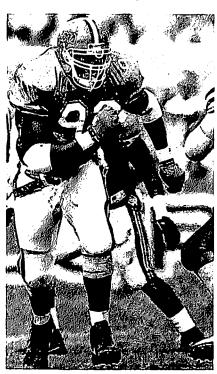
- The first tie-breaking system in Division I-A football, which will be used if necessary during the SEC championship game. If there is a tie after four quarters, each team will possess the ball once and put it in play on its opponent's 25-yard line. Each team retains the ball until it scores or fails to make a first down. If both teams score the same number of points or no points during the extra series, additional extra series will be played to determine a
- Eight conference games, after playing seven the last four years. "What that means is that it will be almost impossible for an SEC team to win a national championship," Goff said. "There will be too many tough games."
- A second conference team locked into the Florida Citrus Bowl, where it will play the Big Ten runner-up for the next three years. The Citrus Bowl can select: (1) the SEC championship runner-up, (2) an SEC team that has an equal or better overall record than the SEC championship runner-up, or (3) an SEC team ranked in the USA Today/ CNN poll within five places of either team in the SEC championship game, as of the first Monday after the regular season ends.

The SEC is expected to lock a third conference team into a bowl before the season starts.

This much, however, will not change in the SEC this fall: Florida and Alabama will remain the class of the league, win their respective divisions and meet in Birmingham for the league championship. Half of the conference teams probably will land in bowl games.



The net result should be smooth sailing for the SEC through the college football universe in 1992. Beam us up, Scotty, and let the fun begin.



Coming-out party: Florida defensive end Darren Mickell will emerge as a star this season.

EASTERN DIVISION FLORIDA

Cosch: Steve Spurrier (.19-4, 2 years; 39-17-1

overall, 5 years). 1991 record: 10-2 (lost to Notre Dama in Sugar

1981 Testre: 10-2 (10st to Notre Dama in Sugar Bowl). SEC 7-0/15t.

Key lesse: Ephesians Bartley, LB; Brad Culpepper, DT; Arden Czyzewski, K; Cal Dixon, C; Hesham ismail, OG; Terrell Jackson, TE; Tony McCoy, DT; Dexter McNabb, FB; Tim Paulk, LB; Tony Rowell, OT; Alonzo Sullivan, WR; Mark White, OT.

Starters retaralog: Offesse [4]: Willie Jackson, WR, 6-1/104 Jr; Shane Matthews OR, 6-3/192 St.

6-1/194, Jr.; Shane Matthews, QB, 6-3/192, Sr.; Errict Rhatt, RB, 6-0/214, Jr.; Jim Watson, G, 6-2/ Errict Rhatt, RB, 6-0/214, Jr.; Jim Watson, G, 6-2/289, Sr. Defease (7): Myrick Anderson, LB, 5-11/211, Sr.; Larry Kennedy, GB, 5-10/180, Soph.; Darren Mickell, E, 6-4/276, Sr.; Carlton Miles, LB, 6-1/237, Sr.; Del Speer, CB, 6-0/182, Sr.; Harvey Thomas, E, 6-4/231, Sr.; Will White, Sr. 6-1/199, Sr. Kiekers (1): Shayne Edge, P. 5-11/170, Soph. Other bey returnese: Kevin Carter, DE, Soph.; Gantt Crouch, C, Jr.; Charille Dean, TE, Jr.; Tre Everett, WR, Sr.; William Gaines, DT, Jr.; Dean Golden, OT, Soph.; Monty Grow, LB, Sr.; Bill Gunter, DE, Sr.; Lawrence Hatch, CB, Sr.; Harrison Houston, WR, Jr.; Ellis Johnson, DT, Soph.; Greg Keifer, TE, Jr.; (RS/collarbona); Mike Kerr, LB, Sr. (RS/academics); Kedra Malone, RB; Soph. (RS/shoulder); Kelvin Randolph, FB, Jr.; Ed Robinson, LB, Jr.; Dexter Smith, OG, Sr.; Ryan Taylor, OT, Jr.

Dexter Smith, OG, Sr.; Ryan Taylor, OT, Jr.
Top aewcomers: James Bates, LB, Fr.; Dexter
Daniels, LB, Fr.; Tony Davis, RB, Fr.; Reggle Green,
OL, Fr.; Ben Hanks, LB, Fr. (RS); Jack Jackson,
WR, Fr. (RS); Scott Joslyn, OG/OT, Fr. (RS); Jeremy Kennedy, TE, Fr. (RS); Henry McMillan, DT,
Soph. (Prop 48); Dwayne Mobley, RB, Fr.; Sarola
Palmar, WR, Fr. (RS).
8ebsdale: Kentucky; Sept. 12, at Tennessee, Sept.
19, at Mississippi State, Oct. 1; Louisiana State,
Oct. 10: Aubum, Oct. 17: Innisville, Oct. 24, at

Oct. 10; Auburn, Oct. 17; Louisville, Oct. 24; at Georgia, Oct. 31; Southern Mississippi, Nov. 7; South Carolina, Nov. 14; at Vanderbilt, Nov. 21; at Florida State, Nov. 28.

Hickname: Cators. 8lte: Gainesville, Fla.

Outlook: Florida will find replacing 11 starters difficult. Still, there is enough talent left for Coach Steve Spurrier to lead the Gators to their third straight first-place finish.

Offensive strengths: Shane Matthews has passed for over 6,000 yards in two seasons as a starter. With receivers Willie Jackson, Tre Everett and Harrison Houston and running back Errict Rhett, the league's top rusher in 1991, the Gators will continue to drive opposing defenses crazy.

Offensive weaknesses: Florida must replace four linemen, which is never easy in this league.

Defensive strengths: Seven starters return from a unit that forced 31 turnovers. Will White, a two-time All-SEC safety, thought about turning pro during the off-season but opted to return. Linebacker Carlton Miles and end Darren Mickell will emerge as stars this

Defensive weaknesses: Tackles Brad Culpepper and Tony McCoy combined for 149 tackles last season and won't be easily replaced. End Harvey Thomas must recover from a broken leg suffered before the Sugar Bowl.

Special teams: Sophomore punter



l-southeas

OFFENSE



Shane Matthews, QB. Florida

DEFENSE



White, FS. Florida

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Charlie Garner, RB, Tennessee Charlie Clemons, LB, Georgia

FIRST TEAM **OFFENSE**

'08.	memo, School	NL/WL	LIES
WR	ANDRE HASTINGS, Georgia	6-2/181	Jr.
WR	WILLIE JACKSON, Florida	6-1/194	Jr.
TE	FRED BAXTER, Auburn	6-4/240	Sr.
T	JOHN JAMES, Mississippi State	6-3/294	Sr.
T	EVERETT LINDSAY, Mississippi	6-5/290	Sr.
	KEVIN MAWAE, Louisiana State	6-4/244	Jr.
G	TODD PERRY, Kentucky	6-5/280	Sr.
G	RAY STRASCHINSKE, Arkansas	6-4/287	Jr.
QB	SHANE MATTHEWS, Florida	6-3/192	Sr.
RR	GARRISON HEARST Georgia	5-11/195	.lr

DEFENSE

6-0/214 Jr.

RB ERRICT RHETT, Florida

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	JOHN COPELAND, Alabama	6-4/268	Sr.
DL	ERIC CURRY, Alabama	6-6/265	Sr.
DŁ	DARREN MICKELL, Florida	6-4/276	Sr.
LB	DANIEL BOYD, Mississippi State	6-0/233	Sr.
LB	MITCH DAVIS, Georgia	6-3/237	Jr.
LB	CARLTON MILES, Florida	6-1/237	Sr.
LB	JAMES WILLIS, Auburn	6-3/231	Jr.
DB	LARRY KENNEDY, Florida	5-10/180	Soph.
DB	ANTONIO LANGHAM, Alabama	6-1/166	Jr.
DB	GEORGE TEAGUE, Alabama	6-0/187	Sr.
DB	WILL WHITE, Florida	6-1/199	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Class
Sr.
Soph.

OFFENSE

rva.	Leme' Ocanni	ALL WIL	OM99
WR	TRE EVERETT, Florida	5-9/175	Sr.
WR	DAVID PALMER, Alabama	5-9/170	Soph.
TE	PAT AKOS, Vanderbilt	6-5/255	Jr.
Т	JON STEVENSON, Alabama	6-4/285	Soph.
Т	MIKE STOWELL, Tennessee	6-2/290	Sr.
C	TOBIE SHEILS, Alabama	6-2/250	Jr.
G	WILLIAM BARGER, Alabama	6-3/270	Jr.
G	JIM WATSON, Florida	6-2/289	Sr.
QB	ERIC ZEIER, Georgia	6-2/200	Soph.
RB	BRANDON BENNETT, S. Carolina	6-0/198	Soph.
RB	JAMES STEWART, Tennessee	6-1/195	Soph.

DEFENSE

P08.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
DL	CEDRIC BEMBERY, South Carolina	6-0/285	Sr.
DL	J.J. SURLAS, Tennessee	6-4/258	Sr.
DL	HARVEY THOMAS, Florida	6-4/231	Sr.
LB	GARY ABIDE, Mississippi	6-0/235	Sr.
LB	ERIC BROWN, South Carolina	6-2/220	Jr.
LB	DARWIN IRELAND, Arkansas	6-1/226	Jr.
LB	MARTY MOORE, Kentucky	6-1/234	Jr.
DB	BRAD ARMSTEAD, Kentucky	6-0/185	Sr.
DB	ROBERT DAVIS, Vanderbilt	5-9/190	Jr.
DB	JOHNNY DIXON, Mississippi	6-0/195	Jr.
DB	ANTHONY MARSHALL, LSU	6-2/196	Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
PK	DOUG PELFREY, Kentucky	5-11/178	Sr.
Р	PETE RAETHER, Arkansas	6-4/205	Sr.

Shayne Edge, who ranked fourth in the nation last season with a 43.3-yard average, returns, but the Gators will miss All-SEC place-kicker Arden Czyzewski. Larry Kennedy averaged a league-best 27.6 yards per kickoff return in '91.

Key to success: If Florida's new offensive line can protect Matthews, the Gators will score plenty of points.

Sure sign of trouble: If Matthews gets hurt and a rookie quarterback has to work behind a rookie offensive line.

Coach Steve Spurrier says: "I like it that we're the team everybody's pointing at, the team everybody looks to beat. If you play this game, that's the position you want to be in."

Thomas, WR, Soph. Top newscmers: Scott Brownholtz, C, Jr. (JC); Chad

Top aswecmers: Scott Brownholtz, C, Jr. (JC); Chad Chosewood, OL, Fr. (RS); Charlle Clemons, LB, Jr. (JC); Mike Fredenburg; OL, Fr. (RS); Steve Gates, OT, Fr. (RS); Randali Godfrey, LB, Fr.; Ha'son Graham, WR, Jr. (JC); Jerry Jerman, WR, Jr. (JC); Danny Ledbetter, LB, Jr. (JC); Jock Stephens, S, Fr. (RS); Paul Taylor, OL, Fr. (RS); Greg Trembie, CB, Jr. (JC); David Weeks, C, Fr. (RS). Sebedeis: At South Carolina, Sept. 5; Tennessee, Sept. 12; Cal State Fullerton, Sept. 19; Mississippl, Sept. 26; at Arkansas, Oct. 3: Georgia Southern. Sept. 26; at Arkansas, Oct. 3; Georgia Southern, Oct. 10; Vanderbilt, Oct. 17; at Kentucky, Oct. 24; Florida (at Jacksenville, Fla.), Oct. 31; at Auburn, Nov. 14; Georgia Tech, Nov. 28. Nekname: Buildogs.

Site: Athens. Ga.

Outlook: The Bulldogs, behind quarterback Eric Zeier, will have enough offense to challenge Florida for the division title. The problems are on defense, where injuries and other problems have left Georgia undermanned. The offense will have to score enough points to keep the Bulldogs in the hunt until the defense matures.

Offensive strengths: Coordinator Wayne McDuffie's new offensive scheme and Zeier's remarkable performance allowed the Bulldogs to set seven passing records last fall. With the return of running back Garrison Hearst

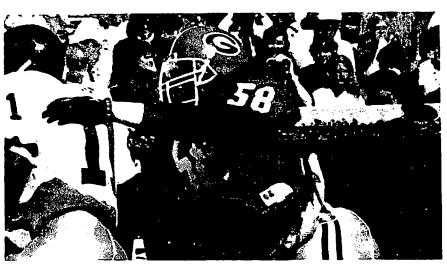
GEORGIA

Cosch: Ray Goff (19-16, 3 years). 1991 record: 9-3 (beat Arkansas in Independence Bowl). SEC: 4-3/T4th.

Key lesses: John Allen, LB; Chuck Carswell, CB; Russell DeFoor, C; Curt Douglas, DT; David Har-gett, S; Greg Jackson, LB; Willie Jennings, NG; Arthur Marshall, FL; Davyne Simmons, LB; Le-Monte Tellis, OG; George Wone, CB

Monte Teilis, OG; George Wynn, CB. Starters reteralog: Offense (8): Andre Hastings, FL, 6-2/18), Jr.; Garrison Hearst, RB, 5-11/195, Jr.; 6-2/181, Jr.; Garrison Hearst, RB, 5-11/195, Jr.; Alec Millen, T, 6-7/278, Sr.; Shannon Mitchell, TE, 6-3/242, Jr.; Steve Roberts, G, 6-3/263, Soph.; Mack Strong, RB, 6-0/214, Sr.; Bernard Williams, T, 6-9/279, Jr.; Eric Zeier, QB, 6-2/200, Soph. Betass [5]: Casey Barnum, T, 6-3/265, Jr.; Carlo Butter, LB, 6-2/208, Jr.; Mitch Davis, LB, 6-3/237, Jr.; Donnie Maib, T, 6-3/259, Sr.; Raiph Thompson, S, 6-1/184, Jr.; Klekers [2]: Scot Armstrong, P, 6-2/187, Jr.; Kanon Parkman, K, 5-11/170, Soph

Soph. Other toy returnees: Maurice Harrell, LB, Soph.; Preston Jones, QB, Sr.; Todd Peterson, K, Sr.; Jeff



Top Dawg: Mitch Davis leads a quality corps of Georgia linebackers.

and big-time receiver Andre Hastings, the Bulldogs will improve an offense that ranked third in the SEC last sea-

Offensive weaknesses: If Hearst is not at full speed, the Georgia running game is inconsistent. The Bulldogs were held to less than 150 yards rushing six times last season. Additionally, Georgia doesn't have a proven center.

Defensive strengths: Mitch Davis leads a quality corps of linebackers that should only get better with the addition of Charlie Clemons, a junior college All-America.

Defensive weaknesses: The Bulldogs have lost four linemen to injury or personal problems since the end of last season. Outside linebacker Maurice Harrell must recover from reconstructive knee surgery.

Special teams: Scot Armstrong lived up to his billing in '91, averaging 41.9 yards per punt. The problem is place-kicking, normally a Georgia strength. Kanon Parkman made only four of nine attempts longer than 30 yards last season. Hastings is a huge weapon as a kickoffreturn man.

Key to success: Georgia must use its high-powered offense to control the football, which would keep its defense off the field.

Sure sign of trouble: If the opposition runs the ball consistently, which would eat up the clock and keep Georgia's offense on the sideline.

Coach Ray Goff says: "We've made some progress, but now we have to see if we can take it to the next level. If our offense can hold the fort while our defense develops, we have a chance."

TENNESSEE

Site: Knoxville, Tenn.

Cosche Johnny Majors (111-59-10, 15 years: 168-102-10 overall; 24 years) 1691 ricerd 6:3 (lost to Penn State in Flesta Bowl) SEC:5-2/3rd
Key lesses: Maric Adams. TE: Shazzon Bradley, DT. Dale Carter, St. Bernard Datney, OT, Earnest Fields, LB; John Fisher, C. Darryl Hardy, LB: Andy Kelly, OB: Patrick Lenolf, OT, Jeremy Lincoln, CB: Floyd Miley, OB; Chris Mims, DE; Tom Myslinski, CB: Carl Pickens, WR: Chuck Smith, DE: Shon, Walker, LB. Starters returning. Differs (14): Mario: Brunson, FB. 6-1/245, Jr.; Graig Edulkner, WR: 5-11/177, Jr.; James Slewart, RB, 6-1/195, Soph; Milke Slowell, T. 6-2/290, Sr. Differse (2): Roderick Lewis, St. 6-3/186 Jr.; J.J. Burlas, T. 6-4/258, Sr. Kickers (2): John Beckeyvoort, K. 6-1/170, Soph: Tom Hutton, P. 6-1/181; Soph; Clar key returness. Jerry Colquilit, QB, Soph; Rodney Gordon, DT, Sr.; Aaron, Hayden, RB, Soph; Reggie: Ingram, LB, Jr.; Todd; Kelly, DE, Sr.; J.J. McCleskey, WR, Sr.; Horace Morris, DE, Jr.; Heath Shuler, QB, Soph; Brian Spivey, C. Sr.; Ben Talley, LB, Soph; Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT, Fr. (RS); Bubba Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Jason Layman, DT Michamo: Volunteers.



Tricky Vol: Tennessee receiver Craig Faulkner fools teams with his surprising speed and sticky hands.

Outlook: Tennessee's string of three straight New Year's Day bowl appearances could be snapped this season as only six starters return from last year's 9-3 squad. The schedule is tough early, but the Volunteers could win seven games and sneak into a bowl.

Offensive strengths: The Vols have the deepest backfield in the league, paced by sophomores James Stewart and Aaron Hayden, who finished fifth and sixth, respectively, in the SEC in rushing. Junior college transfer Charlie Garner will bolster the backfield. The receivers will be solid.

Offensive weaknesses: Heath Shuler and Jerry Colquitt are both unproven quarterbacks operating behind a line that returns only one starter.

Defensive strengths: Not many, as only two starters return. Tackle J.J. Surlas could become an excellent player. He'll need to be. Surlas should combine with veteran Todd Kelly and redshirt freshman Jason Layman to give the Vols a decent line.

Defensive weaknesses: You name it. Larry Lacewell is a defensive genius, but even he'll struggle with this group.

Special teams: The kicking will be solid. Punter Tom Hutton, who averaged 41.9 yards per kick, and place-kicker John Becksvoort, who made 15 of 21 fieldgoal attempts, both return. There is no way to replace Dale Carter as a return man.

Keys to success: A starting quarterback must emerge and the offensive line must be good enough to take advantage of the talent at running back.

Sure sign of trouble: If the offense makes mistakes and puts the defense in danger, it could be a long year in Big Orange Country.

Coach Johnny Majors says: "We are in a major, major, major rebuilding program, and that's no pun. I have no idea what kind of team we'll have because I don't know who the team is.'

VANDERBILT

Ceach: Gerry DiNardo (5-6, 1year);;
1991 metric 5-6: SEC; 3-4/T6th;
Key Keylif, Brothen, G. Bobby Crayeraft, OT, Corey, Harris, TB; Rod. Kelth, LB; Jeff Owen, K. Louis Wooldridge; NG, Alan Young, E. 6-4/246, Jr. (out for season/knee)
Starter: returning: Official [8]; Pat Akos, TE, 6-5/255, Jr.; Ryan Bell, G, 8-3/288, Jr.; John Dooling, G, 6-3/274, Jr.; Denrick Payne, WB, 5-7/775; Sr.; Richard Saenz; C, 6-4/258, Soph; Clarence Sevillan, SE, 6-0/182, Sr.; Carlos, Thomas, FB, 6-10/209, Sr.; Marcus Wilson, GB, 8-17/199; Sr. Datese (B); Gerald Collins, LB, 6-3/245, Jr.; Robert Davis, CB, 5-9/191, Jr.; John DeWitt, E, 8-4/240, Jr.; Richert Davis, CB, 5-9/191, Jr.; John DeWitt, E, 8-4/240, Jr.; Richert Davis, CB, 5-11/192, Jr.; Robble Young, CB, 6-7/191, Sr. Kicher [1]: David Lawrence, P, 6-4/212, Sr.

Otter bey returnes: Mario Allinon, TB, Soph.; Sieve Breazeale, LB, Soph.; Eric Dahlberg, OT, Jr.; Nike Gandollo, NG, Sr.; Tony, Jackson, TB, Jr.; Ricky Melton, LB, Soph.

Te) Exverient: Trey Champagne, DT, Fr.; Cliff Desse, TB, Fr.; Bryan Josey, OT, Fr. (RS/am); Royce Love, FB: Fr.; James Manley, DT, Fr.; Owen

Scheful: Al Alabama, Sept. 5, Duko, Sept. 12, Mississippi, Sept. 19, at Aubum, Oct. 3, Wake Forest, Oct. 10, at Georgia, Oct. 17, South Carolina, Oct. 24, at Kentucky, Nov. 7, at Navy, Nov. 14, Flortda, Nov. 21, Tennessee, Nov. 28. Michaema: Commodores. Site: Nashville, Tenn.

Outlook: It has been a decade since there was this much excitement about football in Nashville. The Commodores finished the season by winning four of their last five games, and this season they could go to their first bowl since 1982. The best recruiting class in school history joins 16 returning starters who discovered last season how much fun winning can be.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Marcus Wilson returns to lead an I-bone running attack that ranked second in the SEC last year (236.1 yards per game).

Offensive weaknesses: DiNardo knows that the Commodores must improve their aerial attack, which ranked last in the SEC (102.5-yard average) and completed less than seven passes per game last year. He'll try to use split end Clarence Sevillian and tight end Pat Akos more effectively.

Defensive strengths: Shelton. Quarles ranked third in tackles among SEC outside linebackers and ends last season. The secondary returns intact.

Defensive weaknesses: The Commodores gave up too many big plays last season. It will be hard to replace end Alan Young, who suffered a seasonending knee injury during spring practice.

Special teams: The return of David Lawrence, a two-time All-SEC honoree. means Vanderbilt again will boast excellent punting. A place-kicker must be found, and the Commodores must improve their kickoff- and punt-return units, which ranked eighth and 10th, respectively, in the SEC last season.

Key to success: Developing a passing threat to keep opposing defenses hon-

Sure sign of trouble: If Vandy's passing attack commits numerous turnovers that result in the opposition building leads, because the Commodores don't possess a come-from-behind offense.

Coach Gerry DiNardo says: "Everyone on our team needs to improve and be ready to make the kind of commitment necessary to take the next step. Football is too hard of a game to practice and too hard of a game to play without the reward of winning."

KENTUCKY

Coach: Bill Curry (7-15, 2) years: 64-68-4

overall, 12 years):
1991 resert 3-8 SEC: 0-77 (Dif)
Key tasses: Jerry Bell, DT; Neal Crark, SE; Josy
Couch, NG; Bill Hawk, P; Greg Lahr, OT; Darrick

Thomas, DE.
Sturtere returning: Offices (B): Chuck Bradley, T., 6-5/290, Sr.; Matt. Branum, C: 6-2/261, Sr.; Kurl. Johnson, FL. 5-7/145, Sr.; Pookie Jones, QB, 6-1/192, Soph.; Jody Matthews, G: 6-0/255, Sr.; Netl. Page, TE, 8-4/245, Sr.; Todd Perry, G. 6-5/280; Sr.; Terry Samuels, FB, 6-2/240, Jr.; Cralp Walker, TB, 5-10/201, Sr.; Befase, (8): Brad Armstead, S. 6-0/85, Sr.; Marty Moore, LB, 6-1/234, Jr.; Don Robinson, CB, 6-1/180, Jr.; Adrian Sherwood, CB, 5-11/176, Jr.; Reggle, Smith, LB, 6-3/223, Sr.; Sterling Ward, DB, 5-11/175, Sr.; Dean Wells, LB, 6-3/234, Sr.; Duce Williams, DB, 6-0/200, Jr.; Kleturs (1): Doug Pelfrey, K, 5-11/176, Sr.; Otar key, returness: Mark, Askin, OT, Soph.; Zane Baehin, LB, Jr.; Damon, Betz, NG, Soph.; Clyde Ru-King, C, Soph.; Donnia, Redd, TB, Soph.; Clyde Ru-King, C, Soph.; Donnia, Redd, TB, Soph.; Clyde Ru-

King, C, Soph.; Donnia Redd; TB, Soph.; Clyde Ru-dolph, TB, Soph

dolph, TB, Soph
Te; zewecmart: Jim, Brown, DT, Jr. (JC); Alfanzo
Browning, SE, Jr. (JC); Howard Carter, DE; Soph
(UC); Robert Harris, TE, Jr. (JO); Billy, Lofton, DT,
Jr. (JC); Leon Smith, FL, Fr. (RS); David Snardon,
DB, Fp. (RS); James Tucker, DB; Fr. (RS); Emerson Wells, LB, Soph. (Prop 48);
Schadrie: Central Michigan, Sept. 5; at Florida.
Sept. 12; Indiana, Sept. 19; South Carolina, Sept.
16; at Mississippi, Oct. 3; at Louisiana State, Oct.
17; Georgia, Oct. 24; Mississippi, State, Oct. 31;
Vanderbit, Nov. 7; at Cinclinant, Nov. 14; at Tennessee, Nov. 21.

nessee, Nov. 21.

Ricksone: Wildcats. 8ite: Lexington, Ky.

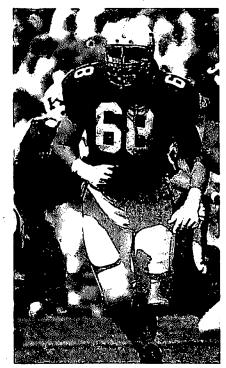
Outlook: When Bill Curry took over the Kentucky program two years ago, he told the Wildcat faithful that they would have to be patient and allow him time to build. Kentucky fans will likely have to be patient again in 1992, but there will be signs of hope if the defense can improve.

Offensive strengths: Spring practice was an intensive learning experience for sophomore quarterback Pookie Jones, who will run the option a lot in the fall. The top seven rushers and 11 of the top 12 receivers are back, as are four starting linemen, so this unit is bound to improve.

Offensive weaknesses: The Wildcats didn't take advantage of their scoring opportunities in 1991, averaging an SEC-low 16.7 points per game.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Marty Moore led the SEC in tackles (183) last season and has a quality running mate in Dean Wells. Free safety Brad Armstead, who intercepted a team-high four passes last season, could be an allleague pick.

Defensive weaknesses: Kentucky boasts too many underclassmen who don't know what it takes to win in the



Looking up: Four starting offensive linemen, including guard Todd Perry return for a Kentucky offense that should be improved.

SEC. Curry spent the spring trying to instill a mean streak in his defense. The Wildcats will need to be mean because they're woefully undermanned.

Special teams: The place-kicking is in great shape with the return of All-SEC performer Doug Pelfrey, who made 71 percent of his field-goal tries and kicked four from over 50 yards last year. A new punter must be found. Kentucky needs to improve upon its lastplace finish in kickoff returns.

Key to success: The option offense is seldom used in the SEC, so Kentucky must exploit opponents' unfamiliarity with it. Jones, who averaged 30.1 yards rushing per game last season, must make great strides as an option quarterback to allow Kentucky to control the ball and keep the defense rested.

Sure sign of trouble: If opponents consistently score first, forcing the Wildcats to pass.

Coach Bill Curry says: "People come from last place to win championships all the time, but only for people who shoot for it. People who don't shoot for it, you can guarantee they won't do it quickly."

SOUTH CAROLINA

Ceseb: Sparky/Woods (15-15-3: 3 years: 53-34-5 overall) 8 years).
1991 | record: 3-6-2 as an Independent:
Key icases: Robert Brooks, WR: Bobby Brown, DE:
Gerald Dixon: LB: Marty Dye; De: Bobby Fuller, OB:
Robert Gibson: LB: Jay Killen, C; Eddie Miller, WR:
Daren Parker, F: Joe Reaves, LB: Rich Sweet, OT.

Startera releville: Offesse (8): Brandon Bennett, RB, 6-0/198, Soph.: Ernest Dye, T, 6-5/335, Sr.; Kenny Farrell, 6, 6-3/270, Sr.; Leroy Jefer, HB, 6-2/230, Sr.; Antoine Rivens, G. 6-2/270, Sr.; Mike Whitman, TE, 6-4/240, Sr. Defease [6]: Cedric

Whitman, TE, 6-4/240, Sr. Betase [6]: Cedric Bembery, NG, 6-0/285, Sr.; Eric Brown, LB.; 6-2/220, Jr.; Toby Cates, CB, 6-0/185, Soph.; Jerry Inman, CB, 6-0/180, Jr.; Bru Pender, S, 5-11/180, Jr.; Tony Watkins, S, 5-11/195, Soph. Kickers [1]: Marty Simpson, K, 6-3/190, Soph. Cliber by returness: Frank Adams, CB, Jr.; Mathew Campbell, TE, Jr.; Rob DeBoer, RB, Jr.; Vincent Dinkins, OG, Soph.; Ernest Dixon, LB, Jr.; Vincent Dinkins, OG, Soph.; Ernest Dixon, LB, Jr.; Troy Duke; DE, Jr.; Keith Franklin, LB, Sr.; Norman Greene, S, Sophi, Lawrence Mitchell, LB, Soph. (RS/knee); Wright Mitchell, OB, Sr.; Asim Penny, WR, Soph.; Kevin Rosenkrans, OT, Sr.; David Turnipseed, DE, Soph.

Tep sericostra: Con Chaney, WR, Jr. (JC); Terrell. Harris, WR, Fr. (RS); Monty Means, WR, Fr., Ron Nealy, CB, Fr.; Mike Reddick, RB, Fr. (RS/knee); Steve Taneyhill, QB, Fr., Blake Williamson, QB, Fr.

steve laneymii, UB, Fr.; Brake Williamson, UB, Fr. (RS); Larry Wright, DL, Fr. & Ebedets: Georgia, Sept. 5; Arkansas, Sept. 12; East Carolina, Sept. 19; at Kentucky, Sept. 26; at Alabama, Oct. 3; Mississippi State, Oct. 17; at Vanderbilt, Oct. 24; Tennessee, Oct. 31; Louisiana Tech, Nov. 7; at Florida, Nov. 14; at Cemson, Nov. 21.

Hicknems: Gamecocks. Site: Columbia, S.C.

Outlook: The Gamecocks did not pick a good time to join the big boys in the SEC. Quarterback Bobby Fuller is gone, and the overall talent level isn't up to snuff. But there is hope down the road in the form of a great incoming recruiting class. This, however, will be a season of survival.

Offensive strengths: As a true freshman. Brandon Bennett showed he was an SEC-caliber running back. He'll have the luxury of running behind three returning line starters in '92.

Offensive weaknesses: Not only is Fuller gone, but so are the Gamecocks' top three receivers, who combined for 117 catches in '91. Senior Wright Mitchell will start at quarterback, but Sparky Woods may be pressured into playing highly regarded recruit Steve Taneyhill.

Defensive strengths: Cedric Bembery is a big-time noseguard who will give the Gamecocks stability up front. The secondary is buoyed by the return of four starters, including standout strong safety Tony Watkins. Linebacker Eric Brown registered a team-high 101 tackles in '91.

Defensive weaknesses: Brown has little help at linebacker. The entire secondary returns, but it yielded 21 touchdown passes last season.

Special teams: South Carolina needs to find a punter, but back is place-kicker Marty Simpson, who hit only six of 13 field-goal attempts last year. Replacing return man Robert Brooks will be difficult.

Keys to success: For South Carolina to compete, it must use the talent in its backfield to control the ball. Its defense must make big plays and give a Herculean effort each Saturday.

Sure signs of trouble: If Bembery gets hurt or if the defense gets tired, South Carolina will struggle in the fourth quarter of most games.

Coach Sparky Woods says: "We play eight bowl teams this season. As a whole, our schedule is frightening. If you look at it one game at a time, it will be exciting every single week."

WESTERN DIVISION ALABAMA

Coach: Gene Stallings (18-6, 2 years; 45-51-1

overall, 9 years). 1991, record: 11-1 (beat Colorado in Blockbuster

Bowl), SEC: 6-1/2nd. Key lesses: Stacy Harrison, S, Mark McMillian, CB; Siran Stacy, TB; Robert Stewart, NT; John Sullins, LB; Keyin Turner, FB; Steve Webb, LB; Tank Wil-

llamson, P.
Sturter returning: Offuse (8): William Barger, G, 6-3/270, Jr.; Jay Barker, QB, 6-3/195, Soph.; Steve Busky, TE, 6-5/225, Sr.; Matt Hammond, T, 6-3/260, Jr.; Kevin Lee, SE, 6-0/175, Jr.; Tobie Shells, C, 6-2/250, Jr.; Jon Stevenson, T, 6-4/285, Soph.; George Wilson, G, 6-2/255, Sr.; Prince Wimbley, FL, 5-10/174, Sr. Briess (7): John Copeland, E, 6-4/268, Sr.; Eric Curry, E, 6-6/265, Sr.; Lemansid Hall, LB, 6-0/200, Jr.; Antonio Langham, CB, 6-1/166, Jr.; Antonio London, LB, 6-2/220, Sr.; Derrick Oden, LB, 8-1/225, Sr.; George Teague, S, 6-0/187, Sr. Kisters (1): Matt Wettlington, K, 5-11/155, Soph.

Other key returnees: Curtis Brown, SE, Soph.; James Gregory, NT, Jr.; Martin Houston, FB, Sr.; Derrick

Gregory, NT, Jr.; Martin Houston, FB, Sr.; Derrick Lassic, RB, Sr.; David Palmer, FL, Soph.

Top surcemers: Tim Barnett, C, Fr. (RS); Brian Burgdorf, QB, Fr. (RS); Napoleón Folks, OG, Soph. (Prop. 48); Tony Johnson, TE, Fr. (RS); Kareem McNeal, OT, Fr. (RS); Rory Segrest, OT, Fr. (RS). Schudie: Vanderbilt, Sept. 5; Southern Mississippi (Birmingham, Ala.), Sept. 12; at Arkansas (Little Rock), Sept. 19; Louisiana Tech (Birmingham, Ala.), Sept. 29; South Carolina, Oct. 3; at Tulane, Oct. 30; at Tennessee, Oct. 17; Mississippi Oct. 24; at Louisiana State, Nov. 7; at Mississippi State, Nov. 14; Auburn (Birmingham; Ala.), Nov. 28. Hiskonas Crimson Tide.

Site: Tuscaloosa, Alá. Site: Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Outlook: Alabama returns 16 starters from a unit that won 11 games, the most by a Tide team since the 1979 national championship squad went 12-0. Alabama's schedule, which doesn't include a date with Florida, should accommodate a smooth run to the Western Division championship.

Offensive strengths: It won't be easy replacing tailback Siran Stacy, but Derrick Lassic will run behind a line that returns five starters. Receivers David Palmer and Prince Wimbley didn't catch a lot of passes last season (31 combined), but both can turn routine grabs into touchdowns.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Jay Barker doesn't make mistakes, but he doesn't make a lot of big plays, either. The Crimson Tide, which scored over 20 points against an SEC opponent just twice last season, must open up its offense if it hopes to win the overall SEC championship.

Defensive strengths: 'Bama has the best set of ends in the league in John Copeland and Eric Curry. Outside linebacker Antonio London, who has been moved from the right to the left side. will make a lot of big hits. Safety George Teague grabbed an SEC-best six interceptions last year.

Defensive weaknesses: With only Teague and cornerback Antonio Langham returning in the secondary, teams will try to pass their way over the Alabama defense. The loss of nose tackle Robert Stewart could make the middle of the defense soft, but the ability of the linebackers could make up for it.

Special teams: The Tide hopes Matt

Wethington becomes a clutch placekicker. Alabama must find a punter who can improve the Tide's sixth-place SEC finish in net punting a year ago. Palmer, who ranked third in Division I-A in punt returns and ran back three for touchdowns, is excitement waiting to

Keys to success: Barker must become a legitimate passing threat to keep opposing defenses from concentrating on the run, while Gene Stallings must get the ball into Palmer's hands as often as possible.

Sure sign of trouble: If Wethington chokes in the clutch. When a team relies on defense, the kicking game must be solid. If Alabama can't improve in that area, it could cost the Tide a few close victories.

Coach Gene Stallings says: "We're still two years away. We're not the dominant team at the line of scrimmage that can come out with confidence and move the ball down the field. I'm still concerned about our offensive line. We've got to get better there."

MISSISSIPPI ST.

Couch: Jackie Sherrill (7-5, 1 year, 112-50-2

overall, 14 years). 1991 record: 7-5 (lost to Air Force in Liberty Bowl). SEC: 4-3/T4th.
Key fosses: Keo Coleman, LB: Trenell Edwards, TE:
Tony Harris, CB: Mike Riley, P; Nate Williams, NT.
Starters. retarding: Offisse (10): Shea Bell: G, 6-1/
287. Jr.: Lee Ford, C, 6-0/285, Sr.: Willie Harris,
WR, 6-17.197, Sr.: John James, T, 6-3/294, Sr.:
Tony James, WR, 5-9/386, Sr.: Michael Montgomery, T, 6-2/305, Jr.: William Prince, RB: 6-2/220,
Sr.: Kenny Roberta, RB, 5-8/171; Sr.: William RobInson, QB/6-0/195, Sr.: Bill Sartin, G, 6-2/291, Jr.
Detase (8): Daniel Boyd, LB, 6-0/233, Sr.: Jerome Bowl). SEC: 4-3/T4th.



A key to success: Alabama will be successful if it can get the ball into David Palmer's hands as often as possible.

Brown, E. 6-5/270, Sr.; Kevin Henry, E. 6-3/265, Sr.; Keltin Joseph, LB: 6-1/236, Sr.; Kelvin Knight, S. 6-1/203, Jr.; Frankle, Luster, S. 6-1/195, Jr.; Edward Williams, CB; 5-10/186, Sr.; Marc Woodard, LB; 6-1/235, Sr. Kisters [1]: Chris Gardner, K. 6-1/187, Sr.
Olter by returates: Herman Carroll, DE, Jr.; Charlie Dayldson, CB; Sooh: Arleva Gibson, NT, Jr.; Todd

Davidson, CB, Soph: Arleye Gibson, NT, Jr.; Todd Jordan, P/OB, Jr.; Wesley Leasy, LB, Jr.; Juan

Top swissens: Kevin Boule, RB, Jr. (JC); Michael James, GB, Jr. (JC); Josh Sletkin, P. Fr. (RS); La-teel Travis, LB; Jr. (JC); Olanda Truitt, WR. Jr. (transfer/Pittsburgh); Kendell Walkins, TE, Fr. RS/Imae

(RS/Imes) Schridit: At Texas, Sept. 5, at Louislana State, Sept. 12, at Memphis State, Sept. 19; Florida, Oct. 1; Auhum, Oct. 10; at South Carolina, Oct. 17; Av-kansas State, Oct. 24; at Kentucky, Oct. 31; Arkansas, Nov. 7; Alabama, Nov. 14; at Mississippi,

Alchaeme Bulldogs. Shie Starkville, Miss.

Outlook: Jackie Sherrill is getting credit for working a miracle after guiding the Bulldogs to their first bowl since 1981 and their first winning season since 1986. Eighteen returning starters and seven junior college transfers form a team that's capable of fighting Alabama for the Western Division title.

Offensive strengths: If quarterback William (Sleepy) Robinson recovers fully from postseason shoulder surgery, the Bulldogs will be very productive. A strong line and the top four rushers and receivers return. Add to this mix receiver Olanda Truitt, a transfer from Pittsburgh, and Kevin Boule, a highly touted junior college running back, and the Bulldogs' offense could be explosive.

Offensive weaknesses: Other than the absence of a proven tight end, there are

Defensive strengths: Eight starters return from a unit that yielded only 14.2 points per game in '91. The Bulldogs featured the second-best rushing defense in the SEC, and linebackers Daniel Boyd and Marc Woodard will help them maintain that standing. Mississippi State ranked second in the SEC in quarterback sacks (38) last year.

Defensive weaknesses: The secondary, which allowed 2,091 yards passing, can be beaten for the big play.

Special teams: Place-kicker Chris Gardner made seven of eight field goals from over 30 yards but only one beyond 40 yards last fall. Sherrill, however, didn't give him many chances. Todd Jordan, a backup quarterback, will punt. Tony James, who ranked nationally in both kickoff and punt returns, is a stealthy return man.

Key to success: The Bulldogs must survive September, which includes road games at Texas, Louisiana State and Memphis State. Mississippi State does not play at home until October 1, when it meets powerful Florida.

Sure sign of trouble: If Robinson suffers an injury, Sherrill will have to overhaul his offense completely.

Coach Jackie Sherrill says: "I think

we're about two years ahead of where I thought that we would be at this time. For us to be better, we have to throw and get the football to people who can make things happen. We've got some players who can get your attention.'

3/AUBURN

Coach: Pat Dyo (94-34-3, 11 years; 148-57-4 overall; 18 years). 1991 record: 5-6. SEC: 2-5/8th

1991 resert 5-6. SEC: 2-5/8th.

Key Issue: Corey Bartow, CB; Eddle Blake, OG; Herbert Casey, WR. Darrell Crawford, LB; Bob Meeks, C; Dale Overton, WR. Richard Shea, DT; Franke Stankunds; S; Alex Thomas, S; Tim Tillman, dB; Jim Von Wyl, K; Jon Wilson, DE

Starturs returaling: Offices, [8], Free Baxter, TE, 6-4/240, Sr; Jub Frazier, TB, 6-0/198, Soph: Wayne Gandy, T, 6-4/283, Jr; Chris Gray, T, 8-4/271, Sr; Reld McMillon, FB, 6-0/216, Jir; Stan White, OB; 6-3/200, Jr; Detress [8]; Tim Gromar; Ite, T, 6-2/269, Sr; Bennie, Pierce, LB, 8-1/255, Sr; Fred Smith, CB; 6-9/186, Soph; Ricky Sutton, E, 6-3/263, Sr; James Wills, LB, 6-3/231, Jir; Kickere [1]; Tiery George, P, 8-2/165, Jr; Other Ley reference: Thomas Balley, WR, Soph; James Boatc, FB, Soph; Pedro Cherry, WR, Jir; RS/ankle); Juan Crum, QG, Soph; Atonzo Etheridge, DE, Soph; Rendy Hart, DT, Jr; Chuckte Johnson, DT, Sr; Mike Pina, S, Jr; Frank Sanders, WR, Soph; Alex Smith, TB, Sr

WR. Soph.; Alex Smith, TB. Sr.

Ten envetages, Bucky Beddingfield, OL. Fr. (RS);
Steve Davis, TB. Fr.; Rn. Bibson, CB. Fr. (RS);
Shawn Malone, TE. Fr. (RS); William McCain, LB.
Fr. (RS); Patrick Nts. OB, Fr. (RS); Oamon Primus, DL. Jr. (JC); Shannon Roubique, OL. Fr.
(RS); Jason Stoft, K. Jr. (JC).

Scholle: At Mississippi; (JC).

Scholle: At Mississippi; Sept. 5; Samford, Sept. 12;
Louisiana State, Sept. 19; Southern Mississippi; State, Oct. 10; at Florida, Oct. 3; at Mississippi; State, Oct. 10; at Florida, Oct. 17; Sauthwestern Louisiana, Oct. 24; Arkansas, Oct. 31; Georgia; Nov. 14; at Alabama, Nov. 26.

Mickeyme: Tiners Site: Auburn, Ala.

Outlook: Auburn failed to go to a bowl last season for the first time since 1981, Pat Dye's rookie year with the Tigers. The controversy surrounding the allegations of payments to a former player forced the Tigers to play under a cloud of suspicion in '91. That cloud has not lifted and could get darker before the 1992 season concludes. Still, there is enough talent for Auburn to post a winning season.

Offensive strengths: Despite the arrival of offensive coordinator Tommy Bowden, Auburn ranked eighth in the SEC in scoring last season. Quarterback Stan White, who ranked a disappointing 10th in the SEC in passing efficiency, must reduce his interceptions (14 in '91). The team's top three rushers—Joe Frazier, Alex Smith, and Reid McMilion-return.

Offensive weaknesses: Great line play—once a staple of Auburn football-has sagged the last two seasons, which has put too much pressure on White.

Defensive strengths: Only five starters return, but they are all quality players. Linebacker James Willis, one of the best freshmen in America two years ago, was slowed by injuries last season. Tim Cromartie is a stalwart up front, and junior college transfer Damon Primus is expected to have an immediate impact on the line. Auburn will gamble more this season, hoping to force more turnovers.

Defensive weaknesses: Three of four starters are gone in the secondary, which Dye says played too soft last year. The '92 secondary will be even more vulnerable if Auburn decides to gamble more than normal.

Special teams: The Tigers are looking for a dependable place-kicker. Tony Amason backed up Jim Von Wyl last season and will be challenged by junior college transfer Jason Stoft. Punting is a real problem. Thery George, who ranked 10th in the SEC, must improve. Thomas Bailey finished second and third, respectively, in punt and kickoff returns last season.

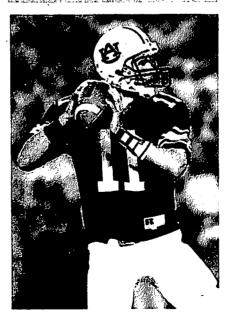
Key to success: Auburn must deliver in the clutch. Last year, the Tigers finished last in the SEC in third-down conversions (37 percent), which meant their defense spent too much time on the field.

Sure sign of trouble: If the NCAA announces an official investigation of the Auburn football program before the season starts, it's unlikely the Tigers will be able to recover mentally.

Coach Pat Dye says: "Right now our strong point would be that we have enough ability to have a chance. We don't have as much ability as we had last year or in the years past. If we do, it is certainly young and inexperienced."

LOUISIANA STATE

Catal: Curtey Hallman (5-6, 1 year; 20-1/ overall, 4 years).
1991 reserts 5-6. SEC: 3-4/T6th.
Key tasses: Marc Boutte, OT; Brian, Griffith, P; Todd Kinctens, SE; Corey, Raymond, CB; Reggle-Walker; LB; Scott Wharton, NG; Wayne Williams, CB, Sarren reterring, Offices (10)! Leo Abel, FB, 6-2/ 2-15.11; Jessa Dalgle, CB2/WH. 5-41/176; Jr.; Vin-cent Fuller, TB, (will move to DB), 6-40/178, Sr. Frank Godfrey, C, 6-4/251, Sr.; Darron Landry, Q, G-3/260, Sr.; Chad Loup, CB; 6-2/207, Jr.; Bryan Corel: Curtey Hallman (5-6, 1 year, 28-17



Looking to improve: Auburn's Stan White, who ranked a disappointing 10th in the SEC in passing efficiency, must reduce his interceptions (14 in '91).

Madden, T. 6-3/276; Sr.; Kevin Mawae, L. 6-4/244, Jr.; Ronnie Simnicht, T. 6-5/285, Jr.; Anthony Williams, TE, 6-2/231; Sr.; Betrese [6]: Mike Hewitt, LB, 6-3/223, Jr.; Anthony Marshall, S, 6-2/196, Jr.; Derriel McCorvey, S, 6-1/194, Sr.; Clayten Mouton, T, 6-2/264, Sr.; Ricardo Washington, LB, 6-4/210, Jr.; Corey White, LB, 6-3/228, Jr. Kishers [1]: Pedro Suarez, K, 5-10/170, Sr. (Albertey returnses: Odell Beckham, TB, Sr.; Harold Riskon, TE. Jr.; RS/Imea; William Crowell, NG

Bishop, TE, Jr. (RS/knee); William Crowell, NG, Soph.; Nate Miller, DT, Soph.; Scott Ray, WR, Jr.; Roovelroe Swan, LB, Jr.; Germaine Williams, FB,

Tes assecutes: Marcus Carmoucho, OL, Fr.: Robert Davis, RB, Fr.; James Gillyard, LB, Fr.; Ryan Huff-man, QB, Fr. (RS); Eddle Kennison, WR, Fr.; David LaFleur, TE, Fr.; Ike Pullett, DL, Jr. (JC); Robert Tribodeaux, DT, Fr. (RS); Lee Williams, S, Soph.

Triboseaux, 01; 11 (16), 12; 14; 15; Mississippi State, Sept. 12; at Auburn; Sept. 19; Colorado State, Sept. 26; Tennessee, Oct. 3; at Florida, Oct. 10; Kentucky, Oct. 17; Mississippi (at Jackson; Miss.), Oct. 31; Alabama; Nov. 7; Tulane, Nov. 21; at Arguer 1980, kansas, Nov. 28. Nicknema: Tigers.

Site: Baton Rouge; La.

Outlook: The transition year under Curley Hallman was difficult, but the combination of 16 returning starters and a great recruiting class should make the Tigers better. LSU's biggest obstacle is a schedule that includes Texas A&M, Mississippi State, Auburn, Tennessee and Florida before mid-October. That may be enough to doom the Tigers to their third straight losing season, which hasn't happened since 1954-56.

Offensive strengths: Chad Loup shared the quarterback's job with Jesse Daigle a year ago, but now Daigle has been moved to wide receiver and Loup knows he's the man. Vincent Fuller, the team's No. 2 rusher last season, has been moved to the secondary. The arrival of standout freshman Robert Davis will bolster a veteran running

Offensive weaknesses: The entire line returns, but this group led the way for a rushing attack that finished last in the SEC (128.6 yards per game). Haliman vows the ground attack will improve.

Defensive strengths: Ricardo Washington moved from tight end to inside linebacker just two weeks before the start of the 1991 season and emerged as an all-league candidate. Tackle Clayton Mouton is expected to have a big year, as is free safety Anthony Marshall. The wild card is linebacker Roovelroe Swan, who must rebound from an injury-filled '91 season.

Defensive weaknesses: LSU simply could not stop the run a year ago, giving up 222.5 yards per game. Only Mouton returns up front, so opponents figure to exploit that weakness.

Special teams: Pedro Suarez, who has kicked 34 straight extra points, is one of the league's best place-kickers. LSU needs to find a punter. The Tigers will miss Todd Kinchen as a punt returner, but Fuller (22.8 yards per kickoff return) is back.

Key to success: The Tigers must establish consistency on offense, which means Loup must be ready to play every Saturday.

Sure sign of trouble: Rampant injuries. Instead of redshirting most of the members of his outstanding recruiting class, Hallman would be forced to throw them into the fire before they're ready because his squad lacks depth.

Coach Curley Hallman says: "A year ago, I didn't know these players and they didn't know me. Now we're all more comfortable, and I think we are ready to get better."

ARKANSAS

Coset: Jack Crowe (9-14, 2 years), 1991 record: 6-9 (lost to Georgia in Independence Bowl), SWC: 5-3/12nd.

Key tesses: Curtis Banks, S; Kirk Collins, S; Mark Henry; C; Michael James, CB; Lyndy, Lindsey, TE; Cody Mosier, OT; MacKenzie Phillips, OT; Kerwin Price, FB; Mick Thomas, LB.

Price, FB; Mick Thomas, LB.
Startus returilus: Offices (7): Jason Allen, OB, 61/187, Soph.; Kirk Botkin, TE, 6-3/237, Jr.; Tracy
Caldwell, FL, 5-11/167, Jr.; Isaac Davis, G, 6-3/
315, Jr.; Ron Dickerson, SE, 6-1/203, Sr.; Chris Ollver, T, 6-5/274, Jr.; Ray Straschinske, G, 6-4/
287, Jr. Defense (6): Tyrone Chatman, LB, 5-9/
220, Jr.; Henry Ford, E, 6-3/269, Jr.; Darwin Ireland, LB, 6-1/226, Jr.; Ray Lee Johnson, E, 6-3/
232, Sr.; Owen Kelly, NG, 5-10/247, Sr.; Orlando
Watters, CB, 5-11/174, Jr. Kickers (2): Pete
Raether, P, 6-4/205, Sr.; Todd, Wright, K, 5-10/
173, Sr.

Nature, 1973-9-1200, Sr.; Todo, Wright, K. 5-10-173, Sr.;
Other key reterress; Gary Adams, S. Sr.; Wade Hill, OB, Jr.; Alfred Jackson, S. Jr.; E.D. Jackson, TB, Sr.; Tony Jeffary, RB, Sr.; Carl Johnson, LB, Soph; Tomny Jones, C. Jr.; Scott Long, DT, Sr.
Top neweomers: Harry Brooks, DE, Soph. (Prop 48); Tracy Cantiope, CB, Fr.; Mike Cherry, OB, Fr.; Del Delco, S. Soph. (Prop 48); Kevin Kempf, LB, Jr. (JC); Trent Knapp, LB, Soph. (Prop 48); Barry Lunney, QB, Fr.; Oscar Malone, RB, Soph. (Prop 48); Steve Mutsaers, OT, Jr. (JC); Tony Nagy, OG/C, Fr. (RS); Mike Nunnertey, S. Fr. (RS); Jeff Savage, RB, Soph. (transfer/Ouachita Baptist). Sebastie The Gitade! Sept. 5; at South Carolina, Sept. 12; Alabama (at Little Rock), Sept. 19; at Memphis State, Sept. 26; Georgia, Oct. 3; at Tennessee, Oct. 10; Mississippi (at Little Rock), Cct. 17; at Auburn, Oct. 31; at Mississippi State, Nov. 7; Southern Methodist (at Little Rock), Nov. 21; Louisiana State, Nov. 28.

Islaná State, Nov. 28.

Mekasur Razorbacks Site: Fayetteville, Ark.

Outlook: The Razorbacks jump out of the frying pan (the Southwest Conference) and into the fire (the SEC), but look for them to be competitive with 13 starters returning. Coach Jack Crowe used spring practice to revamp his offense, but the results won't be known until the fall. How well the team adjusts will determine if Arkansas goes to its second straight bowl game.

Offensive strengths: The top two rushers from 1991, E.D. Jackson and Tony Jeffery, will run behind a line that features standout guard Ray Straschinske. In the new passing offense, Ron Dickerson figures to improve his total of 25 catches in '91.

Offensive weaknesses: Former Tulane coach Greg Davis was hired to install a one-back, pro-style attack that will bring the Razorbacks into the 1990s. But Wade Hill was just one of three candidates for the quarterback job who got contact work in the spring. Hence, highly regarded recruits Barry Lunney and Mike Cherry may get a chance to play as true freshmen, which could spell disaster. The Hogs must improve



Heavy praise: Former walk-on Everett Lindsay may be the Rebels' best lineman in 30 years.

their 14.5-point scoring average of '91. Defensive strengths: Linebacker Darwin Ireland headlines a group of six returning starters who helped the Hogs rank 21st in Division I-A in scoring defense last fail (16.3 points per game). The line is strong and experienced.

Defensive weaknesses: The Razorbacks' secondary, which returns just one starter, could be exploited by some of the league's better passing teams.

Special teams: No worries here. Todd Wright has made 79.6 percent of his career field goals, the highest mark in school history. Punter Pete Raether ranked third in the country last season with a 43.6-yard average.

Keys to success: A quarterback must step forward and the secondary can't allow too many big plays

Sure sign of trouble: If the offense makes a lot of mistakes early in the season, the confidence in Davis' system could be shot. It's important not to try to do too much too soon.

Coach Jack Crowe says: "Since 1989 we've recruited to run the offense we are switching to, and what we are doing puts us more in line to play the schedule we have and to maximize the use of our talent."

MISSISSIPPI

Coach: Billy Brewer (53-46-3, 9 years; 110-86-6 overall, 18 years). 1991 record: 5-6. SEC: 1-6/9th.

60-6 Overal, to years;
1891 rectal; to years;
1891 rectal; to years;
1891 rectal; to years;
1891 rectal; to years;
1891 rectal;
1892 rectal;
1893 rectal;
1893 rectal;
1893 rectal;
1894 rectal;
1894 rectal;
1895 re

Top sewcemers: Jon Bell FB, Jr. (JC): Tony Collier, CB, Jr. (JC): Jonathan Glöson, C, Fr. (RS): Randy Karliner, QB, Fr. (RS): Marvin Mays, DL, Jr. (JC): Darrell Moncus, C, Fr. (RS); Jeremy Veasley, FB, Jr. (JC): Cassius Ware, LB, Jr. (JC): Joa Woods, Jr. (JC): Joa Woods

Varianti Auburn, Sept. 5; Tulane, Sept. 12; at Vanderbill, Sept. 19; at Georgia, Sept. 26; Kentucky, Oct. 3; at Arkansas (Little Rock), Oct. 17; at Alabama, Oct. 24; Louislana State (at Jackson, Miss.), Oct. 31; Memphis State, Nov. 7; Louislana Tech, Nov. 14; Mississippi State, Nov. 28:

Bite: Oxford, Miss.

Outlook: A five-game losing streak to end the 1991 season has the natives in Oxford restless. As a result, Coach Billy Brewer has completely changed the offense and defense, hoping for better results. Ten returning starters provide some hope, as does a schedule that includes seven games in the state of Mississippi.

Offensive strengths: New coordinator Larry Beckish has installed a "trap option" offense that will better utilize the talents of underrated fullback Marvin Courtney, who scored a league-high 11 touchdowns last season. Former walkon Everett Lindsay may be the Rebels' best lineman in 30 years.

Offensive weaknesses: Ole Miss lacks quality depth on the line, which will have to click if the Rebels want their new offense to work. The receivers must improve, too.

Defensive strengths: New coordinator Joe Lee Dunn believes in taking chances and making things happen. He has the players to do it in linebacker Gary Abide and strong safety Johnny Dixon, one of the league's hardest hitters.

Defensive weaknesses: The loss of tackling machines Phillip Kent and Kevin Ingram makes the Rebels thin at end. Including Dunn, there are four new coaches on defense, so the players won't likely adjust quickly.

Special teams: Brian Lee, who hit five of eight field goals from over 40 yards in '91, is an all-league candidate after ranking third among SEC place-kickers in scoring with 64 points. Richard Chisolm finished third in the league in punting (42.1-yard average), but the Rebels ranked last in the SEC in net punting (36.5-yard average). The Rebels will be hard pressed to replace return man Vincent Brownlee.

Key to success: The veteran receivers must improve and their freshman counterparts must contribute immediately. In order for the new offense to work, opponents must respect the deep threat.

Sure sign of trouble: If there are injuries on the defensive line, where the Rebels possess little depth.

Coach Billy Brewer says: "We've had a lot of changes since last season, and during the spring we had to go slow in order to allow our new coaches and players to get used to each other. But they've responded positively, and there is an air of excitement about Ole Miss football again."

NGTHE COUTLEAST

Ascending: Vanderbilt and Mississippi State. With 16 starters returning, Gerry DiNardo's Commodores appear headed to their first bowl since 1982. Love him or hate him. Jackie Sherrill returns 18 starters from a Bulldog

team that went to a bowl for the first time since '81.

Descending: Mississippi. The talent level continues to drop in Oxford, and there is no apparent hope for improvement. The Rebels finished last season on a fivegame losing streak, and they don't figure to end their losing ways in the first

four weeks of the '92 season, when they play Auburn, Vanderbilt and Georgia (along with Tulane).

Nightmare schedule: Louisiana State. The Tigers must face Texas A&M, Mississippi State, Auburn, Tennessee and Florida before mid-October. South Carolina, which plays eight bowl teams, is the runner-up.

Dream schedule: Florida. The Gators won't have to leave the state for eight of their 11 games. Their only three tough tests will be at Mississippi State, Vanderbilt and Florida State.

Best matchup of the year: Alabama at Mississippi State on November 14. The Bulldogs almost beat the Crimson Tide last season in Tuscaloosa, but they lost, 13-7. That sets up an emotional rematch in Starkville that could decide the SEC's Western Division title.

Worst matchup of the year: Cal State Fullerton at Georgia on September 19. A year ago, Georgia sleepwalked through a 27-14 win over the Titans. This contest is sandwiched between games against Tennessee and Mississippi, so Coach Ray Goff will be hard pressed to keep the Bulldogs focused on beating lowly Cal State Fullerton.

Shocker of the year: Vanderbilt over Florida in Nashville on November 21. The Gators will be caught looking ahead to the following week's game at Florida State. The win will lock up a bowl bid for the Commodores and knock the Gators out of the national championship picture.

Bowl bound: Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi State are locks, while Tennessee and Vanderbilt could make it with a few breaks.

Biggest shoes to fill: Those of Florida defensive tackles Brad Culpepper and Tony McCoy. Thanks to Culpepper and McCoy, opponents converted only 30 percent of their third-down tries last season, the lowest percentage in the SEC. Replacements Ellis Johnson and William Gaines won't have to play at the level of Culpepper and McCoy for the Gators to be successful, but they will have to be consistent.

Most underrated player: Craig

Faulkner, WR, Tennessee. He caught 35 passes for 509 yards last season in the shadow of all-star Carl Pickens. Faulkner fools teams with his surprising speed and sticky hands.

Best kick-coverage units:

Stève Spurrier, Florida

Bost Rolsonn candidato:

Will White, S, Florida

Best pro prospect:

Shane Matthews, QB, Florida

Best coaching staff:

Alabama

Tennessee

Best coach:

Impact newcomers: Kevin Bouie, RB,

Mississippi State, Jr. (JC); Charlie Clemons, LB, Georgia, Jr. (JC); Dexter Daniels, LB, Florida, Fr.; Charlie Garner, RB, Tennessee, Jr. (JC);Monty Means, WR, South Carolina, Fr.; Damon Primus, DL, Auburn, Jr. (JC); Greg Tremble, CB, Georgia, Jr. (JC); Olanda

Truitt, WR, Mississippi State, Jr. (transfer/Pittsburgh).

Coach of the year: Steve Spurrier, Florida. Despite major losses in the offensive and defensive lines, Spurrier will find a way to win the close games and lead the Gators to the Eastern Division crown.

Coach on the hot seat: Billy Brewer, Mississippi. The success Sherrill enjoyed at Mississippi State in '91 only turns up the heat on Brewer. After finishing 9-3 in 1990, Ole Miss slipped to 5-6 overall and 1-6 in the SEC last fall. In an effort to stop the bleeding, Brewer hired six new assistants in the off-season.

Best bets: Florida quarterback Shane Matthews will join Georgia's Herschel Walker as the only individual to win SEC Player of the Year honors three times. . . . Vanderbilt will go to its first bowl since 1982. . . . Rumors will begin by midseason that Sherrill is leaving Mississippi State to take a National Football League job. . . . Alabama's David Palmer will receive some Heisman votes and become the Southern version of Raghib (Rocket) Ismail. . . . Before the season begins, the NCAA will announce that it has begun an official investigation of the Auburn football program.

Odds and ends: The SEC has sent at least half of its teams to bowls in 10 of the last 11 seasons. . . . South Carolina enters the SEC with an all-time record of 22-72-9 against the other 11 league members. . . . Tennessee and Auburn will not play for the first time since 1955 due to the new divisional alignment. . . . Alabama, Auburn, Georgia and South Carolina are all celebrating their football centennials. ... For the first time in 51 years,

Georgia failed to have a player selected in the NFL draft. But Bulldogs graduate assistant coach Craig Erickson was picked by Tampa Bay.

-TONY BARNHART

HONOR ROLL

Rest offensive line-Mississippi State Best offensive backfleid: Bast backup auerterback: Preston Jones, Georgia Best wide receivers: Best clutch receiver: Andre Hastings, Georgia Best defensive line:

Florida

Florida

Alabama

Best-kitting defensive linemen: Darren Mickell, Florida Rest Heebackers: Mississippi State Best-hitting linebacker: James Willis, Auburn Best secondary: Florida Best-hitting defensive back: George Teague, Alabama Bast kicking gama: Florida

RETURNING LEADERS Reshing: Errict Rhett, Florida, 100.8 yds./game

(224 att., 1,109 yds., 10 TDs, 5.0 avg.). Passing efficiency: Shane Matthews, Florida, 148.8 rating pts. (361 att., 218 comp., 3,130 ds. 28 TDs). Total offense: Shane Matthews, Florida, 285.5 yds:/game (10 yds. rushing, 3,130 yds. pass-ing, 3,140 total yds.). Receiving: Willie Jackson, Florida, 4.6 rec./ game (51 rec., 725 yds., 10 TDs; 14.2 avg.). Secting: Marvin Courtney, Mississippi, 6.2 pts./game (11 TDs, 1 2-pt. PAT, 0 FGs, 68 Posting: Shayne Edge, Florida, 43.3 avg. (46 punts, 1,991 yds.) Pant returns: David Palmer, Alabama, 16.1 avg. (24 att., 386 yds., 3 TDs). Kickell returns: Larry Kennedy, Florida, 27.6 avg. (12 att., 331 yds., 0 TDs). Field goals: Pedro Suarez, Louisiana State, 1.3 FG/game (13/19 FGs, 68%). Intercapilose: George Teague, Alabama, 0.55 int/game (6 int., 96 yds., 0 TDs).



On the mark: Pedro Suarez, who has kicked 34 straight extra points, is one of the SEC's best kickers.

Aggies will be aiming to do the Southwest proud

By KIRK BOHLS Austin American - Statesman

ts reputation battered by everything from embarrassing Cotton Bowl losses (now four straight) to halffilled stadiums to recruiting scandals, the Southwest Conference will be out to prove in 1992 that it's no Mickey Mouse outfit.

Of course, it has to go to Disneyland to do it.

The shrinking league, now down to eight teams following the departure of longtime member Arkansas to the Southeastern Conference, still has a few things to boast about. The Southwest has two legitimate Helsman Trophy candidates in running backs Trevor Cobb of Rice and Greg Hill of Texas A&M, up-and-coming programs at Texas Tech and Rice, and new, passminded coaches in Texas' John Mackovic and Texas Christian's Pat Sullivan.

And maybe even a national championship contender.

Texas A&M, which played 62 freshmen and sophomores a year ago en route to winning the conference crown, added its third straight superb recruiting class last spring. If things break the Aggies' way, they could become the first SWC team to win the national title since Texas in 1970.

They'll start their hopeful climb to the top in, well, Mickey Mouse's neighborhood. The Aggies will play Stanford in the Disneyland Pigskin Classic at Anaheim, Calif., on August 26.

"A national championship is a little more elusive than having a goal of winning the Southwest Conference," Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said. "We talk about that as a byproduct of winning the conference. We talk about trying to be the best, but the time to talk about a national championship is when you're going to Dallas (for the Cotton Bowl) and you're ranked one, two or three."

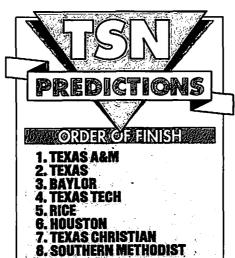
TEXAS A&M

Ceast: R.C. Slocum (27-9-1; Syears). 1991 record: 10-2 (lost to Florida State in Cotton Bowl): SWC: 8-0/1st.

Key losses: Keith Alex, OT: Quentin Coryatt, LB; Chris Crooms, S; Bucky Richardson, QB; Kevin Smith, CB; Mark Wheeler, NG.

Smith, CB; Mark Wheeler, NB.
Stritur returning: Offices (9): Doug Carter, FB, 6-0/216, Sr.; Chris Dausin, C, 6-4/283; Jr.; John Ellisor, G, 6-4/276, Sr.; Tony Harrison, SE, 5-10/188, Jr.; Tyler, Harrison, G, 6-4/270, Jr.; Greg Hill, TB, 5-11/206, Soph.; Brian Mitchell, FL, 6-0/184, Soph.; Greg Scherp, TE, 6-3/233, Jr.; Dexter Wesley, T, 6-4/291, Jr.; Bittess (7): Sam Adams, E, 6-4/230, Sr.; Derrick Frazier, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Otis Realy, LB, 6-1/221, Sr.; Lance Teichelman, E, 6-4/230, Sr.; Derrick Frazier, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Otis Realy, LB, 6-1/221, Sr.; Lance Teichelman, E, 6-4/259, Jr.; Kickers (2): David Davis, P, 6-2/225, Sr.; Terry Venetoullas, K, 6-0/206, Jr. (Ither toy returnies: Jessic Cox, LB, Soph., Clif Groce, FB, Soph.; Pat. Henry, NG, Jr.; Jeff Jones, OL, Soph.; Todd Mathison, OL, Soph.; Billy Mitchell, DB, Soph. (RS/academics); Sleve Solari, LB, Jr.; Rodney

(RS/academics); Steve Solari, LB, Jr.; Rodney



Thomas, RB, Soph Top asweams: Aaron Glenn, DB, Jr. (JC); Matt Miller, QB, Fr. (RS); Tommy Preston, QB, Fr.; (RS); Corey Pullig, QB, Fr.; Detron Smith, FB, Fr.; Sherrod Wyatt, DB, Fr.: Schedule: Stanford (Disneyland Pigskin Classic at

Anahelm, Calif.), Aug. 26; at Louislana State, Sept. 5; Tulsa, Sept. 12; at Missouri, Sept. 19; Texas Tech. Oct. 3; Rice. Oct. 17; Baylor, Oct. 24; at Southern Methodist, Oct. 31; Louisville, Nov. 7; at Houston, Nov. 12: Texas Christian, Nov. 21; at Texas, Nov. 26.

Mickness: Aggles. Sile: College Station, Tex.

Outlook: The youthful Aggies came within 11 points of a perfect season in 1991 and are determined to narrow the gap. R.C. Slocum has won more games

(27) in his first three seasons than any



Road hazard: Sam Adams paces a Texas A&M line that is tough against the run.

coach in school history. The Aggies could make a run at their first national title since 1939.

Offensive strengths: Nobody has a better tailback tandem than Texas A&M's Greg Hill and Rodney Thomas. Fullbacks Doug Carter and Clif Groce are rugged. The Aggies' line—led by guards John Ellisor and Tyler Harrison—is one of the best in the country.

Offensive weaknesses: Until they take a snap, the quarterbacks have to be labeled questionable. However, redshirt freshmen Tommy Preston and Matt Miller could shake that tag quickly. The shift from a running game to a more balanced offense could take time.

Defensive strengths: Outside linebacker Marcus Buckley and free safety Patrick Bates rattle opponents' heads. The line, paced by sophomore end Sam Adams, is tough against the run.

Defensive weaknesses: After Buckley and Jason Atkinson, the linebacking corps lacks depth. Because of its great speed and terrific pursuit ability, this defense could be vulnerable to counters and reverses.

Special teams: David Davis is the league's top returning punter. Terry Venetoulias was eight-of-10 on fieldgoal attempts inside the 40-yard line last year, and he increased his distance on kickoffs.

Key to success: Finding a quarterback who won't hurt the team.

Sure sign of trouble: If Texas A&M stumbles in its first two games against Stanford and Louisiana State. Both games will be played on grass, a surface the Aggles haven't played on since

Coach R.C. Slocum says: "I'm not going to anguish over our inexperienced quarterbacks, and we'll not use that as an excuse for losing. We've got good running backs, a good offensive line and a defensive line with some experience. We'll try to accentuate those."

TEXAS

Coach: John Mackovic (first year; 44-36-1

overall, 7 years).
1991 record: 5-8. SWC: 4-4/T5th.
Key losses: Mark Berry, CB; Shane Childers, RB;
Shane Dronett, DE; Scott Gooch, CG; Tommy Jeter, DT; Mical Padgett, LB; James Patton, DT; Boone Powell, LB; Shay Shaffe, OT; Curtis Thrift, TE. Starters enterlag: Offesse (7): Jeff Boyd, G., 6-4/ 280, Sr.; Phil Brown, RB, 5-11/196, Jr.; Darrick Duke, WR, 6-2/204, Sr.; Peter Gardere, OB, 6-0/ 189, Sr.; Alan Luther, T, 6-4/282; Sr.; Turk Mr. Donald, C, 6-4/274, Sr.; Kenny Neal, WR, 6-3/198, Jr. Datuse (5): Grady Cavness, CB, 5-10/194, Sr.; Anthony Curl, LB, 6-3/204, Sr.; Willie Mack Garza, CB, 5-9/173, Sr.; Lance Gunn, S, 6-3/214, Sr.; Bo Robinson, E, 6-4/255, Sr. Kiekers (2): Kelly Mc-Clanahan, P, 6-2/216, Sr.; Jason Ziegler, K, 5-11/

Other by returness: Sam Adams, OG, Sr.; Jason Burleson, TE, Sr.; Joey Ellis, DB, Soph.; Butch Hadnot, RB, Jr.; Scooter Hesseltine, S, Soph.; Brian Howard, WR, Soph.; Todd Hunt, DT, Sr.; Jon Kunt-

ASON **ALL-SOUTHWEST TEAM**

OFFENSE



Grea Hill. RB, Texas A&M

DEFENSE



Marcus Buckley, LB, Texas A&M

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Shea Morenz, QB, Texas DEFENSE: Andrew Swasey, DB, Baylor

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	MELVIN BONNER, Baytor	6-3/196	Sr.
WR	FRED GILBERT, Houston	5-9/174	Sr.
TE	MIKE McKENZIE, Baylor	6-3/243	Sr.
T	CRAIG BELLAMY, Baylor	6-3/250	Jr.
T	CHARLIE BIGGURS, Texas Tech	6-4/277	Sr.
C	TURK McDONALD, Texas	6-4/274	Sr.
G	MIKE APPLEBAUM, Rice	6-2/260	Sr.
G	JOHN ELLISOR, Texas A&M	6-3/278	Sr.
QB	J.J. JOE, Baylor	5-11/178	Jr.
	TREVOR COBB, Rice	5-9/190	Sr.
RB	GREG HILL, Texas A&M	5-11/206	Soph

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	SAM ADAMS, Texas A&M	6-4/282	Soph
DL	TUNJI BOLDEN, Texas Christian	6-2/245	Sr.
DL	SHAWN JACKSON, Texas Tech	6-3/244	Jr.
LB	JASON ATKINSON, Texas A&M	6-3/234	J۲.
LB	MARCUS BUCKLEY, Texas A&M	6-4/230	Sr.
LB	Le'SHAI MASTON, Baylor	6-1/205	Sr.
LB	RYAN McCOY, Houston	6-3/240	Jr.
DB	PATRICK BATES, Texas A&M	6-4/225	Jr.
	GRADY CAVNESS, Texas	5-10/194	Sr.
DB	LANCE GUNN, Texas	6-3/214	Sr.
DB	TRACY SAUL, Texas Tech	6-0/180	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Dae	Name, School	HL/WL	Class

	TERRY VENETOULIAS, Tex. A&M		J۲.
P	DAVID DAVIS, Texas A&M	6-2/225	Sr.

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

04.	Marib, School	ni./Wi.	LIZE
WR	LLOYD HILL, Texas Tech	6-2/185	J۲.
NR	RICHARD WOODLEY, TCU	5-9/178	J۲.
TE	GREG SCHORP, Texas A&M	6-3/233	Jr.
T	BILLY BALDWIN, Rice	6-4/325	Sr.
T	DAVID BREEDLOVE, TCU	6-3/268	Sr.
C	CHRIS DAUSIN, Texas A&M	6-4/263	Jr.
G	JEFF BOYD, Texas	6-4/280	Sr.
G	TYLER HARRISON, Texas A&M	6-4/270	Jr.
QB	ROBERT HALL, Texas Tech	6-0/170	Jr.
	DAVID MIMS, Baylor	5-9/176	Sr.
	ROBERT STRAIT, Baylor	6-1/245	Sr.

DECENICE

DEFEITOE			
POS.	Nama, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	ALBERT FONTENOT, Baylor	6-4/243	Sr.
DL	CHAD PATTON, SMU	6-2/235	Jr.
DL	MATT SIGN, Rice	5-10/220	Sr.
LB	ERIC BLOUNT, Houston	6-1/230	Sr.
LB	ANTHONY CURL, Texas	6-3/204	Sr.
LB	BILL KIELY, Southern Methodist	6-0/240	Sr.
LB	WINFRED TUBBS, Texas	6-5/240	Jr.
DB	KEVIN BATISTE, Houston	6-2/182	Soph.
DB	DERRICK FRAZIER, Texas A&M	6-0/175	Sr.
DB	MICHAEL McFARLAND, Baylor	5-10/196	Sr.
DB	TONY RAND, Texas Christian	5-11/178	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Pas.

PK

Name, School DARRELL RICHARDSON, Rice PETER GARDERE, Texas	HL/WL 5-9/165 6-0/189	Class Soph. Sr.
--	-----------------------------	-----------------------

er, S. Soph.; James Lane, DT, Jr.; Doug Livingston, LB, Soph.; Justin MqLemore, WR, Soph.; Chris Rapp, LB, Jr.; Troy Riemer, OT, Jr.; Jimmy Saxton, DB, Jr.; Winfred Tubbs; LB, Jr. (RS/neck); Adrian Walker, RB, Sr.; Rodrick Walker, RB, Soph.; Norman Watkins, DE, Soph.; Kevin Walter, LB, Jr. (RS/knee); Pascal Walty, DB, Jr. Tap Revenuers: Corny Adams; P, Jr.; Mike Adams; WR, Fr.; Blake Brockermeyer, OT, Fr. (RS); John Elmore, OG, Fr. (RS/ankle); Shea Morenz, OB, Fr.; Joe Phillips, OG, Fr. (RS); Lovell Pinkney, WR, Fr.; Robert Reed, LB, Fr. (RS/ankle); Scott Szeredy, K, Jr.; (JC).

Jr. (JC).
Schridte: Mississippi State, Sept. 5; at Syracuse,
Sept. 12; North Texas, Sept. 26; at Rice, Oct. 3;
Oklahoma, Oct. 10; Houston, Oct. 24; at Texas
Tech, Oct. 31; at Texas Christlan, Nov. 7; Southern Methodist, Nov. 14; at Baylor, Nov. 21; Texas A&M, Nov. 28.

Meknama: Longhorns. Site: Austin, Tex.

Outlook: The Longhorns failed to repeat as SWC champions last year and wound up losing their coach as well. David Mc-Williams is out and former Illinois mentor John Mackovic is in, prepared to lead Texas into its 100th season of college football.

Offensive strengths: Peter Gardere has been alternately venerated and vilified by Longhorn faithful. Nevertheless, he already holds the school record for passing yardage. Texas has a stable of top running backs in Butch Hadnot, Phil Brown and Rodrick Walker.

Offensive weaknesses: Except for center Turk McDonald, the line is suspect. Talented redshirt freshmen Blake Brockermeyer and John Elmore need to come through. Likewise, incoming freshmen Mike Adams and Lovell

Pinkney must upgrade a thin receiving corps.

Defensive strengths: A speedy, veteran secondary led by safety Lance Gunn and a talented group of linebackers led by Anthony Curl and budding superstar Winfred Tubbs should prevent much of a drop-off from last season's No. 3-



Prime Longhorn: Texas has a stable of running backs, including Butch Hadnot.

ranked defense in Division I-A.

Defensive weaknesses: End Bo Robinson is all that remains from what may have been the best line in the nation last year. Former linebacker Norman Watkins could become an excellent pass rusher at defensive end.

Special teams: Scott Szeredy, who was 10-for-10 on field-goal attempts inside the 40 as a junior college All-America last season, will kick off and could take over the field-goal duties from sophomore Jason Ziegler. Gardere and Corny Adams will challenge incumbent punter Kelly McClanahan.

Key to success: Establishing a consistent offense. The Longhorns haven't scored a touchdown in the first quarter in their last 14 games.

Sure signs of trouble: If the offense. picks up where it left off and the defense doesn't.

Coach John Mackovic says: "The defense is not changing systems. We've probably only put in 55 to 60 percent of our offense, and it'll take us a couple of years to put in what we were doing at Illinois. We're not batting 1.000, but our batting average is pretty good."

BAYLOR

Cerch: Grant Teaff (121-100-6, 20 years; 163-146-8 overall, 29 years). 1991 record: 8-4 (lost to Indiana in Copper Bowl).

SWC: 5-3/12nd:
SWC: 5

Jeff Ireland, K.; Monte Jones, OB; Robin Jones, DE; Marcus Lowe, DT; Teddy Patton, DE; Alonzo Pierce, TE: Frankle Smith, CB: John Turnpaugh,

Pierce, TE, Frankle Smith, CB, John Turnpaugh, O. Starters returning Offices (8): Craig Bellamy, G. 6-3/250, Jr.; Melvin Bonner, RB, 6-3/196, Sr.; J.J. Joe, OB, 5-11/178, Jr.; Reigle Miller, SE, 5-9/160, Sr.; David Milms, TB, 5-9/176, Sr.; Robert Strait, FB, 6-1/246, Jr.; Ditrice (3): Keith Caldwell, S (will move to CB), 5-11/180, Sr.; Le'Shal Maston, LB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Michael McFarland, S (will move to CB), 5-10/186; Sr. Klekers None.
Other key returness: Lee Bruderer, LB, Sr.; Shawn Gravens, LB, Sr.; Albert Fontenol, DT, Sr.; John Henry, FB, Jr.; Scotty Lewis, DT, Soph: (RS/academics); Mike McKerzie, TE, Sr.; Matthew Pearson, DE, Sr.; Steve Straham, DT, Soph: (RS/academics); Mike McKerzie, TE, Sr.; Matthew Pearson, DE, Sr.; Steve Straham, DT, Soph: (TF, Earnest Crownover, DE, Fr.; Darryl Bardener, DL, Fr.; Erc Gray, QB, Fr.; Charles: Horton, DL, Soph. (Prop 48); Hunter Hunter, DL, Fr.; LaCurtis Jones, LB, Soph. (Prop 48); Shawn Lawson, DB, Sr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Tony Moore, QB, Fr. (RS); Andrew Swasey, DB, Jr. (JC)
Schele: Louislana Tech, Sept. 5: Colorado, Sept. 12: Utah State, Sept. 19-at Texas Tech, Sept. 26. Houston, Oct. 3: Southern Methodist, Oct. 10: at Texas A&M, Oct. 17: at Texas Christian, Oct. 24; Georgia Tech, Nov. 7, at Rice, Nov. 14; Texas; Nov. 21. Mistrans: Bears.

Hiskname: Bears. Site: Waco, Tex.

Outlook: Grant Teaff's long reign at Baylor ends this year, but his final season may not be a memorable one. The Bears have some excellent skillposition players, but the schedule may be too tough to avoid a rough season.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback J.J. Joe has developed into one of the league's better players. Baylor is 11-4-1 with him as a starter, and he may take off in '92 as the Bears experiment with a no-huddle offense. Beefy Robert Strait is an outstanding fullback.

Offensive weaknesses: Craig Bellamy is the only returnee on the line, and the former tackle has to learn a new position at right guard. The rest of the line might have to wear name tags for identification, which means defensive linemen may soon start wearing on Joe.

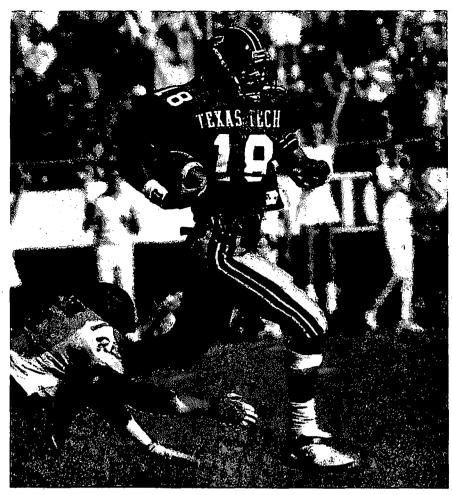
Defensive strengths: Teaff says, lineman Albert Fontenot is "absolutely one of the best players we've had." A beefed-up Le'Shai Maston can run as well as any outside linebacker in the league. Standout safeties Keith Caldwell and Michael McFarland have been moved to the corners, with newcomers Shawn Lawson and Andrew Swasey taking their places.

Defensive weaknesses: The Bears will employ a lighter, quicker defensive front after the departure of every starter on the line and two linebackers. No one is saying it will be better.

Special teams: Although only walk-ons remain, it's doubtful that the Bears' special teams could be any worse than they were in 1991.

Key to success: Developing some cohesiveness early in the season.

Sure sign of trouble: If the offensive linemen can't block their own shadows. Coach Grant Teaff says: "We're pushing the speed issue because we don't have much size. Our line is young but athletic, and we've got Thunder and Lightning at fullback in Robert Strait and



Red Raider radar: If Texas Tech wide receiver Lloyd Hill can see it, he'll catch it.

John Henry. You can guess which one is Thunder."

TEXAS TECH

Cosch: Spike Dykes (30-26-1, 5 years).

1891 resort: 6-5: SWC: 5-3/T2nd:
Key lesses: Rodney: Blackshear, SE; Mark Bounds, P. Briah Dubiski; S; Jason Duvall, OB; Lin Elliott, K. Anthony Lynn, IB; Anthony McDowell, FB; Fred Petty, NT; Anthony Stinnett, FL; Matt Wingo, LB:
Starter: returning: Offices [8]: Charile Biggurs, T. 6-4/277, Sr.; Brad Elam, C, 6-3/255, Jr.; Robert Hall, QB, 6-0/170, Jr.; Don Hasley, TE, 8-8/250, Sr.; Stance Labaj, G, 6-4/263, Sr.; Stacey Petrich, T, 6-2/270, Jr. Defense [8]: Donny Brocke, CB, 5-11/185, Jr.; Steve Carr, LB, 6-3/240, Sr.; Harry Dyas, E, 6-5/256, Sr.; Shawn Jackson, E, 6-3/244, Jr.; Ben Kirkpatrick, LB, 5-11/220, Sr.; Mike Lisclo, LB, 6-1/230, Sr.; Tracy Saul, S, 6-0/180, Sr.; Anthony Wiley, CB, 5-10/185, Jr; Kickers: None.

Other key returness: Jon Davis, K/P, Soph.; Lette. Eaton, LB, Sr. (RS); Scott Fitzgerald, C/OG, Soph.; Lloyd Hill, SE, Jr.; Steve Hoffman, NT, Sr.; Byron, Morris, IB, Soph.; Larry Starr, FB, Jr. (RS); Quincy

Tep semecuris: Shawn Banks, LB, Fr.; Dwayne. Bryant, S, Jr. (JC); Derrick Johnson, LB, Jr. (transfer/Temple); Robert King, P, Jr. (transfer/ Toxas-El Paso); Derrell Mitchell, WR, Jr. (JC). Setefate Oklahoma, Sept. 3; Wyoming, Sept. 12; at Oregon, Sept. 19; Baylor, Sept. 26; at Texas A&M, Oct. 3; at North Carolina State, Oct. 10; Southern Methodist, Oct. 24; Texas, Oct. 31; at Rice, Nov. 7; at Texas Christian, Nov. 14; Houston, Nov. 21. Nickname: Red Raiders. Site: Lubbock, Tex.

Outlook: No team was hotter at the end of last season than Texas Tech, which

won five of its last six to finish second in the SWC. The Red Raiders' carry-over momentum will be tested in their season opener against Oklahoma.

Offensive strengths: A line that includes Charlie Biggurs, Stance Labaj and Brad Elam should provide ample protection for Robert Hall, one of the league's most versatile quarterbacks. If wide receiver Lloyd Hill can see it, he'll catch it. Receiver Derrell Mitchell, a junior college import, can blaze.

Offensive weaknesses: The line, though good, lacks depth. And there's no breakaway threat in the backfield to pair with hard-to-bring-down fullback Byron (Bam) Morris.

Defensive strengths: All-America candidate Tracy Saul is a terrific free safety. Junior defensive end Shawn Jackson, who added 20 pounds in the offseason, can flat-out rush the quarterback.

Defensive weaknesses: A unit that rarely stopped anyone in 1991 wasn't helped by the knee injury suffered by linebacker Steve Carr last spring. Besides Jackson, there's nothing special about the line.

Special teams: The Red Raiders will scuffle to replace both an All-America punter (Mark Bounds) and the league's most prolific field-goal kicker (Lin El-

liott). Robert King may become the league's tallest punter at 6-foot-4. Sophomore Jon Davis kicked a 57-yard field goal in the spring but doesn't have Elliott's accuracy.

Keys to success: Developing a running game and having success in early games against '91 bowl teams Oklahoma and North Carolina State.

Sure signs of trouble: A porous defense and an ineffective kicking game.

Coach Spike Dykes says: "Everything tastes a little better after last year, but that team is history. A lot of things are possible with this club."

RICE

Corch: Fred Goldsmith (11-21-1, 3 years: 13-28-1 overall, 4 years). 1991 resurd: 4-7, SWC: 2-8/8th.

Key fosses: Tony Barker, LB; Joel Dawson, OT; David Griffin, S. Eric Henley, WB; Winston Ca Van, WR; Larry Stuppy, OG; Trey Telchelman, OG; Tim

Winn, TE.
Startura returning: Olfrese (8): Louis Balady, SE, 510/180, Sr.; Billy, Baldwin, T; 6-4/325, Sr.; Trevor.
Cobb., TB, 5-9/190; Sr.; Kenneth Pinkston, C, 6-2/
285, Sr.; Sreg Willig, OB, 6-6/220, Sr.; Bartisse (9):
Shawin Alberding, E, 6-4/260, Sr.; Nathan Bennett,
S, 5-11/185, Jr.; Charles Gulbronson, T, 6-1/250,
Jr.; Clifford Jackson, CB, 5-8/180, Sr.; Deric Rutherford, E, 6-2/220, Soph.; Matt Sign, NG, 5-10/
220, Sr.; Sean: Washington, CB, 5-11/180, Jr.;
Joey Wheeler, LB, 8-1/220, Sr.; Alonzo Williams,
LB, 5-11/200, Sr.; Kickers, [1]; Darrell, Richardson,
K/P, 5-9/165, Soph.
Other key returnets: Mike Appelbaum, OB, Sr.; David

N.P. 3-97. 165. Sept.

Other key retarges: Mike Appelbaum, OB, Sr.; David
Chisholm, DE, Jr.; Byron Coston, WR, Soph.; Kolls
Crier, TE, Jr.; Herschel Crowe, WR, Jr.; Ricardo,
Deckard, DB, Jr.; Ed Howard, WR, Soph.; Josh LaRocca, OB, Soph.; Jimmy Lee, WR, Soph.; Jarret
Palmiert, DB, Sr.; Carey Seymour, OB, Jr.; Emmetti
Woldren, TR, Soph.

Palmlert, DB, Sr.; Corey Seymour, O6, Jr.; Emmett Waldron, LB; Soph.

Top reversities: Adrayll Askew, LB, Fr. (RS); John Blogs, P., Fr. (RS); Rat Callahan, WR, Fr. (RS); Chris Cooley, OT, Fr. (RS); Bert Emanuel, OB, Jt. (transfer/UCLA); Bobby, Gray, TE, Soph. (transfer/UCLA); Kürt Röper, DB, Fr. (RS).

Sebtdals: At Air: Force, Sept. 5; at Duke, Sept. 12; Sam Houston State, Sept. 26; Texas, Oct. 3; Southern Methodist; Oct. 10; at Texas, AAM. Oct. 17; at Texas Christian, Oct. 24; Texas, Tech. Roy, 7; Baylor, Nov. 14; Navy. Nov. 21; at Holiston, Nov. 28. lor, Nov. 14; Navy, Nov. 21; at Holiston, Nov. 28. Meknama: Owls. Site: Houston:

Outlook: The Owls never recovered after blowing a 10-point lead in the final minutes of a 28-27 loss to Iowa State last year. They lost six of their next eight games to finish a disappointing 4-7.

Offensive strengths: Workhorse Trevor Cobb is one of the best running backs in the nation. Mike Appelbaum, who was moved from tackle to guard, and 325pound tackle Billy Baldwin are two of the league's top offensive linemen. There's a lot of depth at quarterback with the ultra-mobile Josh LaRocca, the speedy Bert Emanuel and the strong-armed Greg Willig.

Offensive weaknesses: The line has some holes. Corey Seymour, a former defensive lineman coming off knee surgery, will be moved to guard. Center Kenneth Pinkston likely will be moved to the other guard slot.

Defensive strengths: Matt Sign is a gritty noseguard, but he needs help on the line. Junior David Chisholm, a passrush specialist, is coming on and should contribute. Emmett Waldron and Alonzo Williams are among the league's finer linebackers.

Defensive weaknesses: The Owls were horrid against the pass last season and not much better against the run. Jarrett Palmieri or redshirts Ricardo Deckard and Kurt Roper must step forward at strong safety.

Special teams: Darrell Richardson made only six field goals in 1991 and needs to improve the distance on his kickoffs as well. Split end Louis Balady or redshirt freshman John Biggs will handle the punting.

Key to success: A better defense. Rice allowed an average of 435 yards per game and yielded at least 28 points six times.

Sure signs of trouble: If Cobb stops running (because of injury) and the quarterbacks start running (because the line keeps breaking down).

Coach Fred Goldsmith says: "The early part of our schedule is tougher with road games against an Air Force team that's won two straight bowl games and Duke. If we get some wins, it could be a heckuva springboard."

HOUSTON

Corel: John Jenkins (14-8, 2 years) 1991 reser£ 4-7 SWC: 3-5/7th Key lesses: Roman Anderson, K., James Bevil, DT; John, Brown III, WR; Vertond Brown, WR; Glenn



incredible streak: Fred Gilbert caught 106 passes in 1991 to give Houston the NCAA's pass receptions leader for the fourth straight year.

Cadrez, DE: Chandler Evans, QB, 6-4/210, Soph (out for season/knee); Mike Gisler, OT; Marcus Grant, WR: David Klingter, QB; Charles Langston,

Grant, WR. David Klingter, QB, Charles Langston, P. Jerry Parks, QL, Kenny Perry, S.
Starter reterrals: Olf-Rese (B): Kevin Bisler, C; 8-2/
275, Sr.; Darrell Clapp, T. 6-5/305; Jr.; Fred Gilbert, WR. 5-9/174, Sr.; TlAndre Sanders; SB, 6-0/
215, Jr.; Jeff Talt, G, 6-4/295, Sr.; Jason Youngblodd, G, 6-4/280, Sr.; Diesse (7): Alfen Aldridge, E. 6-2/240, Jr.; Kevin Batiste, S, 6-2/182, Soph.; Eric Blount; LB, 6-1/230, Sr.; John W. Brown; CB, 5-11/185, Jr.; Sam Faalta, T, 6-4/280, Sr.; Ryan McCoy, LB, 6-3/240, Jr.; Nigel Ventress; LB, 6-1/235, Sr. Kleters: None.

Other Key Interess: Daniel Adams, WR, Soph: John

235, Sr. Kleters: None.

Other key promises: Daniel Adams, WR, Soph.; John
Brown, CB, Soph.; Steve Clarke, DT, Sr.; Trace
Craft, K. Soph.; Tyrone Davis, S. Sr.; Donald Douglas; OB, Jr.; Tracy, Good, WR, Sr.; Tommy Guy, RB,
Jr.; Stephan Harris, CB, Sr.; Daniel Johnson, S. Jr.;
Jimmy, Klingler, OB, Soph.; Kevin LaBay, DE, Sr.;
Chris Maraviglia, K. Soph.; Ron Peters, WR, Soph.;
Sherman Smith, WR, Jr.; Greg Thornburgh, P,
Soph.; Linton Weatherspoon, DT, Jr.; Brad
Whigham, OB/C, Jr.
Top gavegmers: Truett Akin, OT, Fr. (RS). Keta

wingram to (c. tr.
Top parecentre: Truett Akin, OT, Fr. (RS); Kyle
Allen, QB, Jr. (JC); Stewart Carpenter, S, Jr. (JC);
Carlos Chester, DE, Fr. (RS); Percy Gautt, WR/RB,
Jr. (JC); Jim Herndon, OT, Fr. (RS); Keith Jack,
WR, Jr. (JC); Jisson McDonald, WR, Jr. (JC); Thomas: McGaughey; WR, Fr. (RS); Donald, Moffett,
WR, Jr. (JC); Ryan Mounts, C, Fr. (RS); Lamar

Smith: SB. Jr. (JC).
Schools: At Tulsa, Sept. 5; Illinois, Sept. 19; at Michigae, Sept. 26; Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 3; at Baylor; Oct. 17; at Texas, Oct. 24; Texas Christian, Oct. 31; at Southern Methodist, Nov. 7; Texas A&M, Nov. 12; at Texas Tech, Nov. 21; Rice, Nov. 28.

lemins: Cougars: Bile: Houston:

Outlook: The Cougars are hoping to bounce back from their worst season in five years. But they'll be trying to right themselves following the departure of 17 lettermen, including quarterback David Klingler.

Offensive strengths: Fred Gilbert caught 106 passes in 1991 to give Houston the NCAA's pass receptions leader for the fourth straight year. If newcomer Keith Jack is as good as advertised, he and Gilbert would be a formidable pass-catching tandem. Donald Douglas, while no Klingler, is a good athlete who has two years' experience with the run-and-shoot offense.

Offensive weaknesses: The line resembled a flag-waving matador last season (38 sacks allowed), and there's little to suggest it will be any different in 1992 despite the return of four starters. Chandler Evans, pegged to be the No. 2 quarterback, underwent knee surgery last spring and won't play this

Defensive strengths: Eric Blount and Ryan McCoy are above-average linebackers, while Allen Aldridge continues to improve at end.

Defensive weaknesses: Almost everywhere else. The Cougars will debut their third defensive coordinator in as many seasons for a very good reason: They can't seem to stop anyone.

Special teams: The Cougars will dearly miss the Southwest's all-time leading scorer, place-kicker Roman Anderson, and its top punter in 1991, Charles Langston. Sophomores Trace Craft and Chris Maraviglia have the leg strength, if not the consistency, of Anderson.

Keys to success: Finding somebody who can provide a decent running threat and stopping anybody on defense. Sure sign of trouble: If the defense picks

up where it left off.

Coach John Jenkins says: "We've got a lot of defensive starters back, but sometimes you ask, 'Do you want them back?"

TEXAS CHRISTIAN

Ceach: Pat Sullivan (first year as head

Light Teams 7-4 SWC: 4-4/T5th.

Kay lease: Reggle Anderson, LB, 6-2/225, Jr. (out for season/lose); Kally Blackwell, TE: Roosevelt Collins, DE: Scott Himes; LB; John Marsh, OS; Ben-

Collins, DE; Scott Himes; LB; John Marsh, OB; Benne Scott, OB.

Starters: rituraling: Olfesse [8]: Mike Stack, T, 6-5/256, Sr.; David Breedlove, G/T, 6-3/288, Sr.; Leon, Clay, OB, 8-1/216; Sr.; Kyle: McPherson; WR, 5-10/176; Jr.; Curitis Modkins, RB, 5-9/184, Sr.; Jody Morse; O: 6-3/278; Sr.; Stephen Shipley, WR, 6-5/218, Sr.; Keith Wagner, T, 6-4/270, Sr.; Richard Woodley, SB, 5-9/178, Jr.; Defesse [8]: Tunli Bolden, E, 6-2/245; Sr.; Greg, Evans, S, 6-1/213, Jr.; Anthony Hickman, CB, 5-8/178, Sr.; Tunli Bolden, E, 6-2/245; Sr.; Greg, Evans, S, 6-1/213, Jr.; Anthony Hickman, CB, 5-8/178, Sr.; Tunli Bolden, E, 6-2/245, Sr.; Tony Rand, S. 5-11/176, Sr.; Stave Reed, CB, 6-0/180, Sr.; Brad Smith, LB, 6-3/248, Sr.; Royal West, T, 6-3/273, Soph, Kikketn [2]: Trey Becan, P, 5-11/175, Jr.; Jeff Wilkinson, K, 6-0/192; Sr.
Other key reteroes: Angel Alvarez, WR, Soph.; Derrick Cullors, RB, Soph, Stu Dickens, SB, Sr.; David Lewis, WR, Sr.; Bovd Milby, OG, Soph; Mike Moulton, LB, Soph; Rico Wesley, CB, Jr.
Top mucchara: Marcus Allen, LB, Fr. (RS); Kevin Brewer, C, Fr. (RS); Bret Hankins, OL, Soph, (JC); Mikyba Martin, S, Fr. (RS); Scott McLeod, OB, Fr. (RS); John Oglesby, RB, Jr. (JC); Marcus Prier, RB, Fr. (RS); Allen, LB, Sp.; John Oglesby, RB, Jr. (JC); Marcus Prier, RB, Fr. (RS); Allen, LB, Sept. 318; All New Mexico, Sept. 5: Western Michigan, Sept. 12: Al New Mexico, Sept. 5: Western Michigan.

Rehafule: At New Mexico, Sept. 5: Western Michl-gan, Sept. 12: at Southern: Methodist, Sept. 26: Oklahoma State, Oct. 3: Baylor, Oct. 10, at Miami (Fla.), Oct. 17; Rice, Oct. 24; at Houston, Oct. 31; Texas, Nov. 7; Texas Tech, Nov. 14; at Texas A&M,

Nov. 21. Nickeams: Horned Frogs. Site: Fort Worth, Tex.

Outlook: Pat Sullivan won the Heisman Trophy as a quarterback at Auburn in 1971. TCU fans only hope he can lure similar marquee talent to Fort Worth. Sullivan's first recruiting class was solid and, combined with a manageable schedule, the Horned Frogs could be headed toward their first back-to-back winning seasons since 1955-59.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Leon Clay is effective when not injured. He broke his leg last season and hasn't played in a game past midseason in two years. Richard Woodley, Stephen Shipley. Kyle McPherson and David Lewis form the league's best receiving corps. Offensive weaknesses: The line has been more hazardous than helpful to Clay's well-being. Sullivan may have to inject new bodies here to keep his quarterback in one piece.

Defensive strengths: End Tunji Bolden, who had 61/2 sacks and 24 pressures a year ago, is one of the premier defensive linemen in the Southwest. Brad Smith is improving rapidly at linebacker, while safety Tony Rand is a top hitter.

Defensive weaknesses: Improvement is necessary everywhere and depth remains a problem. The loss of junior linebacker Reggie Anderson to a season-ending knee injury last spring could be devastating.



Just one gem: Players like Richard Woodley help give Texas Christian the league's best receiving corps.

Special teams: If the defense in '91 was shaky, the special teams were miserable. The punting and punt-coverage units were average. Jeff Wilkinson had five field goals blocked, missed his last four attempts and was just seven-for-18 inside the 30-yard line.

Keys to success: Winning the first four games against beatable opponents and keeping Clay off the trainer's table.

Sure signs of trouble: If the offensive line is fragile and futile again and the kicking game remains in the doldrums. Coach Pat Sullivan says: "We've lost 23 in a row to Texas, 19 straight to Texas A&M, six out of seven to Texas Tech. and we've only beaten SMU four times in the last 22 (actually 24) years. We have to change that."

SMU

Couch: Tom Rossley (1-10, 1 year). 1991 record: 1-10, SWC: 0-8/9th. cy lesses: Chris Collins, LB; Oscar Rosales, OT/

Starters reterelag: Offense (10): Korey Beard, WR, 6: 1/160, Sr.; Kyle Carroll, T. 6-4/275, Sr.; Trey Cowan, 6/T, 6-8/305, Sr.; Curus Eldridge, T. 6-5/ Cowan, 6/T, 6-8/305; Sr.; Curtis Eldridge, T, 6-5/276; Sr.; Dan Freiburger, 0B; 6-4/210; Sr.; Rongea Hill, RB; 5-10/185; Sr.; Joë Wells; G, 6-5/290; Sr.; Erwin Wilburn, WR; 5-11/160; Soph.; Matt. Wisenbaker, C, 6-2/280; Sr.; Jason Wolf, WR, 6-0/200, Sr. Daftase (10): Michael Artmore, S, 5-11/185, Jr.; Jason Bednarz, LB, 6-2/235; Sr.; Byron Bonds, L, 6-4/280, Jr.; Gary Bratham, S, 6-1/200, Sr.; Jonathan Dupree, CB, 6-2/175, Jr.; Bill Kleby, LB, 6-0/240; Sr.; Marcello 6-0/240, Sr.; Kenny Rea, L, 6-3/275, Sr.; Marcello

Simmons, CB, 8-1/175, Sr.; Byron, Slaughter, L/ LB, 6-2/235, Jr.; Adam Vöyles, L/LB, 6-3/235, Jr. Kiskurs [1]: Russell Anderson, K, 5-11/180, Sr. Kishars [1]: Russell Anderson; K, 5-11/180, Sr.
Other bay returess: Brian Berry, WR, Jr. (missed 91/hlp); Calvin Burdick, P, Soph, Darren Harrington; OL (moved from DL), Sr. (Mike Henderson; LB, Sr.; Ryan Lawson; P, Jr.; Marc Lewis, P,
Soph; Marcus; Malonson; CB/WR Sr.; Mark Martinez; S, Sr.; Isalah Nelson; CB, Soph; Uzo Okeke;
OC (moved from OL), Sr.; Chad Patton; DL, Jr.;
Todd Ritz, QB/P, Jr.; Mike Romo; QB, Sr. (status uncertain/knee); Mick Rossley; WR, Soph; Kevin Shepard; RB, Soph; Troy Williams, CB, Soph;
Larry Wilson; RB, Soph; Troy Williams; CB, Soph;

Larry Wilson; RB, Soph; Troy Williams; CB, Soph;

Larry Wilson; RB, Soph; Troy Williams; CB, Soph;

Larry Wilson; RB, Soph; Top concensus: Ketth Childs, QT, Fr.; Mark Eldred, QB, Fr.

OB, Fr.

Schools Tulane, Sept. 5; North Texas, Sept. 12; at New Mexico, Sept. 19; Texas Christian, Sept. 26; at Baylor, Oct. 3; at Rice, Oct. 10; at Texas, Tech, Oct. 24; Texas A&M, Oct. 31; Houston, Nov. 7; at Texas, Nov. 14; Arkansas (at Little Rock), Nov. 21.

Richams Mustangs.

Sile: Dallas.

Outlook: The terminally weak Mustangs continue to suffer from the NCAA-imposed death penalty of 1987-88. They lost 15 starters to injury in 1991 and won just one game. SMU finally will have four full recruiting classes this year, but the future isn't now.

Offensive strengths: Wide receiver Brian Berry should be completely recovered from the hip injury that sidelined him all of last season. If so, he'll give SMU the deep threat it sorely needs. A lighter, healthier Jason Wolf, the school's all-time receptions leader, should be well following an ankle injury.

Offensive weaknesses: Until it proves otherwise, the line is a liability. It allowed too many sacks (57) and paved the way for too little running (2.3 yards per rush). Defensive linemen Uzo Okeke and Darren Harrington have been moved to offense to help solidify things. Knee injuries to Mike Romo and Dan Freiburger last season have the Mustangs searching for stability at quarterback.

Defensive strengths: The linebacking crew, headed by the intense Bill Kiely and the active Jason Bednarz, is a good one.

Defensive weaknesses: Injuries and dropped interceptions have crippled the secondary's effectiveness. The possible move of cornerback Marcus Malonson to wide receiver won't help.

Special teams: The Mustangs compiled the worst net punting average (29.9 yards) in the league last season. Todd Ritz and Calvin Burdick, a former allstate punter in high school, will get a long look.

Key to success: The offensive line must keep the quarterback on his feet.

Sure sign of trouble: If the offense starts every possession inside its 30. Last year, the Mustangs had to travel 70 or more yards for 80 percent of their

Coach Tom Rossley says: "Our goal is to have a winning season. We're not completely ruling out Romo returning. Actually, Turner Gill (a Mustang assistant and former Nebraska quarterback) is throwing better than anybody we've got out there."

SCOUTING THE SOUTHWEST

Ascending: Texas and Texas Tech. New Coach John Mackovic's all-business, no-nonsense attitude should propel what had become lax Longhorns into one of the nation's elite teams once again. The Red Raiders,

Bost effective line:

Bost offensive backfield:

Bert Emanuel, Rice

Best wide receivers:

Best cialch receiver:

Bast defensive line:

Texas A&M

Lloyd Hill, Texas Tech

Texas A&M

Texas A&M

coming off a second-place finish in the SWC, have the offensive ingredients to remain in the upper division and even challenge front-runner Texas A&M.

Descending: Houston and Baylor. The disappointing Cougars slipped into mediocrity last season and have shown distressing signs of

staying there. The senior-dominated Bears lost three of their last six games after a 5-0 start and were shut out by Indiana in the Copper Bowl.

Nightmare schedule: Texas, as usual. The Longhorns have three 1991 bowl teams (Oklahoma, Syracuse and Mississippi State) on the docket. And the Bulldogs' coach, Jackie Sherrill, has beaten the 'Horns in his last six games against them.

Dream schedule: Texas Christian. The Horned Frogs play national champion Miami in 1992, but they open the season with New Mexico, Western Michigan and Oklahoma State, three teams that were a combined 8-24-1 last year.

Best matchup of the year: Texas A&M at Texas, November 26. This game should determine the league's Cotton Bowl representative and, unless the Aggies have stumbled earlier, perhaps have national championship implications.

Worst matchup of the year: Houston at Michigan, September 26. The Wolverines fizzled against Florida State's sophisticated passing attack last year, but don't bet on that happening again. Shocker of the year: Rice will stun Texas in Houston on October 3. The Owls catch the Longhorns the week before Texas' big game against archrival Oklahoma.

Bowl bound: Texas A&M is a lock, and Texas and Texas Tech should be unless they hugely underachieve.

Biggest shoes to fill: Houston quarterback David Klingler's. The Cougars completed more passes (330) last year than five other SWC teams even attempted. Donald Douglas is the heir apparent.

Most underrated player: Le'Shai Maston, LB, Baylor. The Texas A&M and Texas 'backers get all the pub, but this guy can play.

Impact newcomers: Keith Childs, OT, Southern Methodist, Fr.; Mark Eldred, QB, SMU, Fr.; Bert Emanuel, QB, Rice, Jr. (transfer/UCLA); Bret Hankins, OL, TCU, Jr. (transfer/ Notre Dame, JC); Keith Jack, WR, Houston, Jr., (JC); Derrell Mitchell, WR, Texas Tech, Jr. (JC); Shea

HONOR ROLL

Best-Altilag datusive liseman:
Sam Adams, Texas A&M
Best lisebackers:
Texas A&M
Best-Hitting lisebacker:
Marcus Buckley, Texas A&M
Best secondary:
Texas
Texas
Best-Altilag datesaive back:
Patrick Bates, Texas A&M
Best kickles game:

Best kick-coverage units:
Texas-Tech
Best coeching staff.
Texas-A&M
Best coech:
R.C. Slocum, Texas-A&M
Best Heisens considers:
Trevor Cobb, RB, Rice
Best pro prespect:
Marcus Buckley, LB, Texas-A&M

Morenz, QB, Texas, Fr.; Tommy Preston, QB, Texas A&M, Fr. (RS); Lamar Smith, RB, Houston, Jr. (JC); Andrew Swayze, DB, Baylor, Jr. (JC). Coach of the Year: Fred Goldsmith, Rice. This fourth-year coach has qui-

etly built the Owls into one of the league's most respectable teams. Coach on the hot seat: John Jenkins, Houston. This statsstarved coach's. reputation, if not his job, is on the line. He can no longer sacrifice defense for scoreboard-exploding offense if he wants to be taken seriously.

Best bets: Although Peter Gardere will jump into the top 10 on the league's all-time passing yardage list early this season, hotshot freshman Shea Morenz will be the Longhorns' starter by November. . . . Houston will average 36 points per game; its defense will allow 46. . . . SMU, with its first senior class since football was restored following an NCAA suspension of the program in 1987 and '88, will win four games and pull its first major upset. . . . Rice's Trevor Cobb. who this year will become the league's all-time leader in rushing attempts, will carry the ball 50 times in one game. . . . Goldsmith won't pull his starters from any game until after the final whistle. ... TCU quarterback Leon Clay will break a finger on his throwing hand while eating in the school cafeteria. . . . The stoic Mackovic will crack his first smile in November. . . . Texas Tech safety Tracy Saul will become the Southwest's alltime interceptions leader (he needs one) in the Red Raiders' first game (against Oklahoma).

Odds and ends: Rice quarterback Josh LaRocca had surgery in the spring to correct his separated left shoulder. Texas receivers Eric Jackson and Mike Davis were suspended—the latter from school for failure to pay traffic tickets—and Kenny Neal broke his collarbone. Jackson may return, but Davis must sit out a full year. . . . Thirteen coaches from the University of Mexico City visited Texas A&M's spring practices. . . . Jason Wolf of SMU needs 46 catches to become the league's all-time receptions leader. . . Houston free safety Kevin Batiste is a former minor leaguer in the Toronto Blue Jays' farm system. He plays center field in both sports. . . . SMU running back Kevin Shepard is the son of Woody Shepard, who played at Oklahoma in the mid-1970s.

-KIRK BOHLS

RETURNING LEADERS

Texas A&M

Resiling: Trevor Cobb, Rice, 153.8 yds./game (360 att., 1,692 yds., 14 TDs. 4.7 ayg.).

Passing efficiency: J.J. Joe, Baylor, 13.1.9 rating pts. (208 att., 109 comp., 1,853 yds., 7 TDs).

Telsi efficase: Robert Hall, Texas: Tech, 206.6 yds./game (278 yds. rushing, 1,788 yds. passing, 2,086 total yds.).

Beerving: Fred Gilbert, Houston, 9.6 rec./game (106 rec., 957 yds., 7 TDs. 9.0 avg.).

Scoring: Terry Venetoulias, Toxas A&M, 8 pts./game (0 TDs., 49 PATs., 13 FGs, 88 pts.).

Peniling: Darrell Richardson, Rice, 39.3 avg. (58 punts, 2,280 yds.).

Peniling: Darrell Richardson, Rice, 39.3 avg. (16 att., 200 yds., 0 TDs).

Rickell returns: Nathan Bennett, Rice, 20.7 avg. (16 att., 331 yds., 0 TDs).

Field genis: Terry Venetoullas, Toxas A&M, 1.2 FG/game (13/18 FGs, 72%).

Intercepticas: Tracy Saul, Texas Tech, 0.73 int./game (8 Int., 79 yds., 0 TDs).



Scary proposition: J.J. Joe could be harder to stop in '92 as Baylor experiments with a no-huddle offense.

Cougars, Aztecs brace for 'big boys' on schedule

By TOM KRASOVIC San Diego Union-Tribune

m nhaling thin air is a way of life in the Western Athletic Conference, whose lofty venues include Laramie, Wyo. (elevation 7,200 feet), Provo, Utah (4,600 feet) and Albuquerque, N.M. (5,300 feet).

At the top of the WAC football mountain in a competitive sense are Brigham Young and San Diego State, league champion and runner-up, respectively, last season. The Cougars and Aztecs might become a bit woozy in 1992, though, breathing in rarefied autumnal air as they attempt to lift the exciting-but-suspect WAC to a higher level of national respect.

How's this for moving up?

● In '92, Brigham Young will begin a three-game series with Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., and play host to Penn State and UCLA.

• San Diego State will open at home against Southern California, play at UCLA and close at home against Miami (Fla.).

• For good measure, the Cougars and Aztecs both must tangle with the WAC's able new kid on the block, Fresno State.

"I don't remember any year where two of the WAC's teams have taken on these kind of teams, and I'm not sure it's good," BYU Coach LaVell Edwards said. "I don't think we need that. One or two of those kind of big games is good. It's good to see our league is improving, which it is. But we have to have our teams win our share of the games."

Winning isn't everything, countered San Diego State's athletic director, Fred Miller.

"If you are going to be a major player, you've got to be a TV player," said Miller, alluding to matchups against national powers that prove attractive to the TV executives.

While the Cougars and the Aztecs duke it out with the big boys, they shouldn't look past Utah—another strong WAC title contender—or Air Force, Fresno State and improving Texas-El Paso.

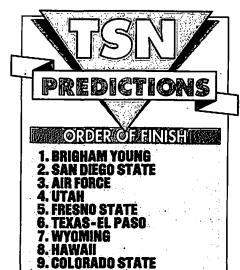
1 BRIGHAM YOUNG

Costs: LaVeil Edwards (183-62-3, 20 years), 1991 record: 8-3-2 (tled lows in Hollday Bowl), WAC: 7-0-1/1st.

Kry Mass: Josh Arneld, DB; Rocky Biegel, LB; Tony Crutchfield, DB; Ty Detmer, QB; Scott Giles, LB; Earl Kauffman, P/K; Tom Ladd, OT; Jared Leavitt, LB; Bryan May, Q6; Eric Mortensen, HB; Peter Tu-Joulott, FR; Garett Tulague, Q6

ipulotu, FB; Garett Tujague, OG.

Statura staming: Official (8): Eric Drage, WR. 6-1/185, Jr.; Ell Herring, T, 6-6/310, Jr.; Milcah Matsuzaki, WR, 6-0/185, Sr.; Garry Pay, C, 6-5/265, Sr.; Byron Rex. TE, 8-2/230, Sr.; Jamal Willis, HB, 6-3/205, Soph.; Butuate [6]: Randy Brock, T, 6-6/260, Soph.; Lenny Gomes, NG, 8-2/260, Jr.; Derwin Gray, S, 5-10/190, Sr.; Shad Hansen, LB, 6-1/230, Sr.; Patrick Mitchell, DB, 6-0/160, Soph.;



Greg Pitts, T. 6-4/265, Soph. Kickers: None.
Other key returness: Tyler Anderson, WR; Jr.; Brad
Clark, DB, Sr.; Bryce Doman, WR, Soph. (RS/collarbone); Tim Hanshaw, OB, Soph. (RS); Todd
Herget, LB, Jr.; Evan Pilgrim, OL, Soph.; Brock
Spencer, QB, Soph. (RS).
Top newcomers: Steve Clements, QB, Soph. (transfer/Texas); Franz Cowart, DB, Jr. (JC); Kalin Hall,
RB, Jr. (JC); Nathan Hall, LB, Jr. (JC); Hema Heimuli, RB, Fr. (RS/ankle); David Lauder, K, Jr.
(JC); Casey Mazotta, DB, Jr. (JC); Terrence Saluona, TE, Fr. (RS); Vic Tarteton, DB, Jr. (JC).
Schrätz At Texas-El Paso. Sept. 5; San Diego

10. NEW MEXICO

one, TE, Fr. (RS); Vic Tarleton, DB, Jr. (JC). Schafele: At Texas-El Paso, Sept. 5; San Diego State, Sept. 10; UCLA, Sept. 19; at Hawaii, Sept. 26; Utah State, Oct. 2; Fresno State, Oct. 10; at Wyoming, Oct. 17; at Notre Dame, Oct. 24; Penn State, Oct. 31; New Mexico, Nov. 7; at Air Force, Nov. 14; at Utah, Nov. 21.

Nickseus: Cougars. Site: Provo. Utah.

Outlook: If the Cougars open the season with league victories against Texas-El Paso and San Diego State, they should



Key player: The Aztecs could make their second straight bowl trip if quarterback David Lowery avoids injury.

be well on their way to their 11th Holiday Bowl (whose host team is the WAC champion). A twist: BYU might ride its front seven defenders and a running back—rather than a passing offense—to the San Diego bowl game. The aerial attack should eventually sparkle, however, behind one of two sophomores, Steve Clements or John Walsh, who will supplant record-setting Ty Detmer.

Offensive strengths: Jamai Willis might be the best runner in school history. The linemen are Wasatch Mountainbig. The precision receivers, particularly Eric Drage, should lessen the growing pains at quarterback.

Offensive weaknesses: Rarely has BYU fielded such raw quarterbacks, the linemen grab too much and tight end Byron Rex lacks a proven backup.

Defensive strengths: Coach LaVell Edwards likened tackle Randy Brock to former Cougar Jason Buck, an Outland Trophy winner. Brock and noseguard Lenny Gomes should take heat off the secondary, which needed resuscitation against San Diego State (in a 52-52 tie last season). Linebacker Todd Herget impressed during the spring, and linebacker Shad Hansen always impresses.

Defensive weaknesses: Although safety Derwin Gray is as good as any WAC defensive back and the secondary played well in stretches last season, the defensive backs got toasted too often overall.

Special teams: Gone are Scott Giles (whose blocked field goal beat UTEP), kickoff-return man Eric Mortensen (who lightened Willis' load) and versatile Earl Kauffman (who kicked and punted to decent effect). Joe Herrick showed promise by averaging 45.3 yards on three punts last season.

Key to success: Either Clements, an agile transfer from Texas, or Walsh, a drop-back thrower, must parlay a strong arm into effective quarterbacking. Neither lacks for talent. But neither is named Ty, either.

Sure signs of trouble: If Gray gets hurt, or Edwards isn't giving free rein to the passing attack.

Coach LaVell Edwards says: "When the bell rings, you can almost bet we'll be doing on offense what we've done. Walsh and Clements emerged as the leading two (quarterback) candidates. I couldn't even venture a guess who would be starting against UTEP (in the season opener)."

2/SAN DIEGO STATE

Coset: Al Luginbill (20: 14-2, 3 years).

1891 resert 8-4-1 (lost to Tulsa in Freedom Bowl). WAC 6-1-1/2nd.

Key lesses: Andy Coviello, LB; Erle Duncan, DE; Lou Foster, LB; Merton Harris, SE; Jim Jerinings, OT; Kevin Macon, C; Patrick Rowe, WR; Ray Rowe, TE.

Continued

PLAYERS

OFFENSE



Marshall Faulk. RB, San Diego State

DEFENSE



Vergil Simpson LB, Air Force

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: Steve Clements, QB, Brigham Young

DEEEMSE-

Shawn Smith, LB, San Diego State

OFFENSE

			
os.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	DARNAY SCOTT, San Diego State	6-3/185	Soph.
WR	BRYAN ROWLEY, Utah	5-10/178	Sr.
TE	BYRON REX, Brigham Young	6-2/230	Sr.
T	TONY NICHOLS, San Diego State	6-5/290	Sr.
	MIKE DeHOOG, Utah	6-5/287	Sr.
C	GARRY PAY, Brigham Young	6-5/265	Sr.
G	DOUG VAIOLETI, Hawaii	6-2/267	Sr.
G	JIM REMSEY, Air Force	6-4/255	Sr.
QB	DAVID LOWERY, San Diego State	6-0/200	Jr.
RB	MARSHALL FAULK, San Diego St.	5-10/185	Soph.
RR	LORENZO NEAL Fresno State	6-0/225	Sr

DECEMBE

	DELENSE				
DL	RICKEY MASSEY, Texas-El Paso	6-2/265	Sr.		
DL	ZACK RIX, Fresno State	6-2/270	Sr.		
DL	DAVE CHAYTORS, Utah	6-2/255	Sr.		
LB	SHAD HANSEN, Brigham Young	6-1/230	Sr.		
LB	CORY TALICH, Wyoming	6-3/200	Jr.		
LB	BARRON WORTHAM, UTEP	5-11/235	Soph.		
LB	VERGIL SIMPSON, Air Force	6-1/210	Sr.		
DB	CARLTON McDONALD, Air Force	6-0/185	Sr.		
DB	DERWIN GRAY, Brigham Young	5-10/190	Sr.		
DB	DAMON PIERI, San Diego State	6-0/185	Sr.		
DB.	PAUL WALLACE, Wyoming	6-1/202	Sr.		

SPECIALISTS

PK	Mame, School JASON ELAM, Hawaii	5-11/185	=
	JASON ELAM, Hawaii	5-11/185	Sr.

OFFENSE

02.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
NR	ERIC DRAGE, Brigham Young	6-1/185	Jr.
NR	GREG PRIMUS, Colorado State	5-11/185	Sr.
TΕ	MARTY THOMPSON, Fresno State	6-4/240	Sr.
T	ELI HERRING, Brigham Young	6-6/310	Jr.
T	JESSE HARDWICK, Fresno State	6-5/290	Sr.
C	MARK BARTON, Utah	6-3/280	Jr.
G	EVAN PILGRIM, Brigham Young	6-5/260	Soph.
G	CODY KELLY, Wyoming	6-5/290	Jr.
QB	FRANK DOLCE, Utah	6-1/203	Sr.
RB	JAMAL WILLIS, Brigham Young	6-3/205	Soph
R8	KEITH WILLIAMS, Utah	5-8/180	Jr.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Hame, School	HL/WL	Class
DL.	MAA TANUVASA, Hawaii	6-3/270	Sr.
DL	RANDY BROCK, Brigham Young	6-6/260	Sopt
DL	LENNY GOMES, Brigham Young	6-2/260	J۲.
LB	ERROL MARTIN, Utah	6-2/214	Sr.
LB	PITA TONGA, Utah	5-10/217	Sr.
LB	MARK MOODY, Air Force	6-2/225	Sr.
LB	OTIS HAMILTON, Colorado State	6-0/222	Sr.
DB	GARY TAYLOR, San Diego State	5-10/180	Sr.
DB	ERIC JACK, New Mexico	6-0/166	Jr.
DB	SHARRIEF SHAH, Utah	6-0/190	Jr.
DB	REGGIE ALSTON, Utah	6-2/212	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./WI.	Class
PK	CHRIS YERGENSEN, Utah	6-1/160	Jr.
P	ED BUNN, Texas-El Paso	6-3/195	Sr.

Starters returnleg: Offense [6]: Marshall Faulk, RB, 5-10/185, Soph.; Joe Heinz, G, 6:-3/290, Sr.; Carlson Leomlti, G, 6:-3/340, Jr.; David Lowery, QB, 6-0/200, Jr.; Larry Maxey, WR, 5-10/170, Sr.; Teny Nichols, T, 6-5/290, Sr. Defense [8]: George Glaze, E, 6-4/240, Jr.; Sebastian Glaze, NT, 6-1/255, Jr.; Robert Griffith, LB, 5-11/200, Sr.; Chris Johnson, S, 6-0/195, Jr.; Damon Pierl, S, 6-0/185, Sr.; Ter-Ill Stean, LB, 6-2/215, Jr.; Fric Sutton, CB, 5-10/ 5,0-0 195, 31., Dahlah 11., 3,0-0 195, 31., 121-110 Steen, LB, 6-2/215, Jr.; Eric Sutton, CB, 5-10/ 170, Soph.; Gary Taylor, CB, 5-10/180, Sr. Kickers [2]: Jason Savorn, P, 6-1/200, Jr.; Andy Trakas, K, 5-8/185, Sr.

Other toy otherses: Darrell Lewis, S. Jr.; Tracey Mao, LB, Sr. (RS); Tyrone Morrison, DL, Jr.; Wayne Pittman, RB, Soph.; Darnay Scott, WR, Soph.; Alex Sementk, TE, Jr. (RS/medical).

Sophi, Alex Sometime, Tie, 7t, 187 Intelligation, 188, Fr.; Fred Edwards, DB, Fr.; Tony Glacolone, DL, Soph. (Prop 48); La'Roi Glover, DL, Fr.; Scott Hammond, DB, Fr.; John McCartney, DB, Fr. (RS); Shawn Smith, LB, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame).

Schröde: Southern California, Sept. 5; at Brigham

young, Sept. 10; at UCLA, Sept. 25; at New Mexico, Oct. 3; Texas-El Paso, Oct. 17; Air Force, Oct. 24; at Colorado State, Oct. 31; at Wyoming, Nov. 7; Hawall, Nov. 14; Fresno State, Nov. 21; Miami (Fla.); Nov. 400. Nickname: Aztecs.

Site: San Diego.

Outlook: With perhaps the most talent in school history, and certainly the fastest, the Aztecs should make their second trip to their hometown bowl if the defense can be merely adequate and David Lowery avoids injury.

Offensive strengths: Marshall Faulk could become the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy. Lowery is no artist but finds the end zone, and only Fresno State can match San Diego State's corps of explosive receivers. The line is huge and mobile.

Offensive weaknesses: Will Coach Al Luginbill regret his curious firing of coordinator Dave Lay? Lay's offenses finished in the top seven nationally in each of his three seasons. Will Faulk survive the hype and the hits? Will the line, decimated in the spring, congeal by Sep-

Defensive strengths: Tyrone Morrison is beginning to justify his prep All-America status. If he can tie up two blockers, the line, which is big, quick and deep, should help a suspect secondary immeasurably. Remember this name: La'Roi Glover.

Defensive weaknesses: The Aztecs finished 103rd nationally last season in total defense. The outside linebackers lack size, the inside linebacker is short on experience and the secondary needs a big-play man.

Special teams: Some of his gambles have paid off nicely, but Luginbill's onside-kick stratagem during the Freedom Bowl loss was crippling. Punter Jason Savorn leveled a return man in the spring but seldom punts with such force. A smash hit as a freshman, place-kicker Andy Trakas must regain his confidence.

Key to success: Surviving the opening alphabet trifecta-USC, BYU and UCLA. Luginbill's first victory over BYU would be huge, too.

Sure sign of trouble: If Southern Cal beats up the Aztecs in the opener. Five days later, Luginbill's team plays at Brigham Young.

Coach Al Luginbill says: "People will say we're young. I know we're young. But I'm not going to accept that as an excuse."

/AIR FORCE

Cosch: Fisher DeBerry (85-33-1, 8 years).
1991 record: 38-15 (beat: Mississippi: State in Liberty Bowl). WAC: 6-2/3rd.
Key lesses: Kette Dornbusch, LB; Ron James, CG; Jason Jones, FB; Steed Lobotzke, OT; Tim Maurer, OT; Rob Perez, QB; Walt Rice, OG; Rod Stephan, LB; Shanon Yates, S; David T, Young, C.

Shanon Yates, S; David T, Young, C.
Starters retarates: Offesse [4]: Clarence Hopkins, WR, 6-0/180, Sr.; Obasi Onuoha, HB, 5-10/167, Jr.; Peter Wilkle, TE, 6-3/225, Sr.; Wayne Young, HB, 6-0/205, Jr. Detense [8]: Alex Armour, CB, 6-3/197, Sr.; Tony Cates, T, 6-3/235, Sr.; Eldrick Hill, S, 6-3/181, Sr.; Chris James, T, 6-3/255, Sr.; Cariton McClonald, CB, 6-0/185, Sr.; Mark Moody, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Mart Newby, NG, 6-3/230, Jr.; Vergil Simpson, LB, 6-1/210, Sr. Klekers [2]: Chris Maclinnis, P, 5-11/182, Jr.; Tyler Shedd, K, 5-8/181, Sr.

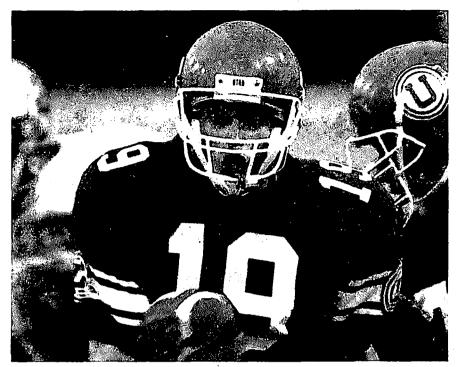
181, 57.

Other key returness: Marcus Adair, LB, Soph.; Chris Baker, NG, Sr.; Jarvis Baker, QB, Sr.; Antoine Banks, HB, Sr.; Mike Black, LB, Jr.; Jason Bowers, LB, Sr.; Martin Edwards, OT, Jr.; Scott Hufford, WR, Sr.; Grant Johnson, LB, Sr.; Jeremy Johnson, HB, Soph.; Stan Lawrie, DB, Jr.; Rob. Nelson, OG, Sr.; He Bernson, QB, Sr.; Depny School DT. Sr.; Jim Remsey, OG, Sr.; Denny Scheel, DT, Jr.

Top sweemars: None.
Schedule: Rice, Sept. 5; Hawali, Sept. 12; at Wyo-ming, Sept. 19; New Mexico, Sept. 26; at Texas-El Paso, Oct. 3; Navy, Oct. 10; Colorado State, Oct. 17; at San Diego State, Oct. 24; Utah, Oct. 31; at Army, Nov. 7; Brigham Young, Nov. 14.

eme: Falcons Elte: Colorado Springs, Colo.

Outlook: Having won 13 of its last 16 games, the latest a 23-point rout of favored Mississippi State in the Liberty Bowl, Air Force hopes to parlay that



Striking from the outside: Utah wide receiver Bryan Rowley will attack the perimeter of opposing defenses.

momentum and a schedule that includes seven home games into another superb season. If the Falcons find some blocking, they could be Top 25 material. That's a big if.

Offensive strengths: Only San Diego State has more talent at running back. Although quarterback Jarvis Baker must replace an ace (Rob Perez), he could shoot down teams with his athleticism.

Offensive weaknesses: If the United States' air attack resembled that of the Air Force football team, this country's national security would be endangered. Baker's health could be threatened by a

Defensive strengths: Cornerback Carlton McDonaid, the WAC's Defensive Player of the Year, and linebacker Vergil Simpson make this a sturdy unit. Defensive weaknesses: That old bugaboo at Cockpit U.: size.

Special teams: Joe Wood and Jason Christ formed the top kicking tandem in the WAC last season, but punter Chris MacInnis and place-kicker Tyler Shedd should do well in the thin air (although Shedd needs to get his kicks up auicker).

Key to success: The Falcons' ability to hang on to the ball. Air Force runs the wishbone better than any team, says BYU Coach Edwards. The Falcons had better: Due to a rules change, defenses now can advance fumbles.

Sure sign of trouble: Numerous Air Force fumbles and opposing defenders regularly winding up in the Falcons' backfield against untested blockers.

Coach Fisher DeBerry says: "The conference championship might come down to the last game when we play BYU here."

Coach: Ron McBride (11-12, 2 years). 1991 recert: 7-5. WAC: 4-4/4th. Key losses: Jimmy Bellamy, DE; Anthony Davis, LB; LaVon Edwards, DB; Keith Embray, DE; Sean Hutson, SB; Todd Lawson, DB.

son, SB; Todd Lawson, DB.

Starters returning: Officase [11]: Steve Abrams, FB, 6-0/210, Sr.; Mark Barton, C, 6-3/280, Jr.; Russ Dalley, T, 6-5/275, Sr.; Mike DaHoog, T, 6-5/287, Sr.; Frank Dolce, QB, 6-1/203, Sr.; Roy Ma'afala, G, 6-3/255, Soph.; Tom McNitt, G, 6-3/265, Sr.; Scott Murry, TE, 6-4/225, Sr.; Bryan Rowley, WR, 5-10/178, Sr.; Keith Williams, RB, 5-8/180, Jr.; Sean Williams, WR, 5-9/160, Sr. Datase (6): Reggle Alston, S, 6-2/212, Sr.; Blaine Berger, T, 8-5/280, Jr.; Dave Chaytors, T, 6-2/255, Sr.; Errol Martin, LB, 6-2/214, Sr.; Sharrieff Shah, S, 6-0/190, Jr.; Mark Swanson, CB, 5-9/181, Jr. Klebars 190, Jr.: Mark Swanson, CB, 5-9/181, Jr. Kickers (2): Chris Yergensen, K, 6-1/160, Jr.; Steve Young, P, 6-3/195, Sr.

Touring, F. 0-31 rss, Sr.

Other key returnees: Anthony Hall, DT, Jr.; Greg

Hoffman, TE, Jr.; Oerrick Odum, DB, Jr.; Vernon

Shaver, WR, Soph.; Pita Tonga, LB, Sr. (RS/knee);

Joe Weich, WR, Sr. (RS/knee).

Joe Weich, WR, ST. (RS/Ince).

Tép aswcemsra: Jamal Anderson, FB, Jr. (JC);
Michael Burke, DB, Jr. (JC); Greg Hooks, WR, Jr.
(JC); Nate Kia; DE, Fr.; Kareem Leary, DB, Jr.
(JC); Harold Lusk, QB, Fr.; Ryan Murry, DE, Fr.
Schefele: At Nebraska, Sept. 5; at Utah State, Sept.
12; Oregon State, Sept. 26; at Colorado State, Cet.
3; Hawaii, Oct. 10; at New Mexico, Oct. 17; TexasEl Paso, Oct. 24; at Air Force, Oct. 31; at Fresno
State Nov. 7; Weeming. Nov. 14; Brigham Young. State, Nov. 7; Wyoming, Nov. 14; Brigham Young, Nov. 21.

Ni**ckaama:** Utes Site: Salt Lake City.

Outlook: Coach Ron McBride, who inherited one of the country's worst defenses two years ago, could field the WAC's finest stoppers this season. Those defenders should enable Utah to contend for its first Holiday Bowl berth. Offensive strengths: Receiver Bryan Rowley combines with running back Keith Williams to attack the perimeter. Guard Roy Ma'afala could be special. Offensive weaknesses: Even modest in-

juries could flatten this unit. The block-

ers seldom flattened anyone last season. Quarterback Frank Doice needs to be more resourceful.

Defensive strengths: Strong safety Sharrieff Shah is a deadly blizter, the linebackers rarely miss and free safety Reggie Alston is a top coverage man.

Defensive weaknesses: The Utes made some huge errors when fatigued last season. They lost their top two frontseven talents in Anthony Davis and Keith Embray. Coordinator Greg Mc-Mackin's departure from the school in the off-season could be a major loss.

Key to success: Being able to slug it out, toe to toe, with BYU. The Utes, crushed often by their state rival, should be among the WAC's top four teams when the two schools meet in the regularseason finale.

Sure signs of trouble: If opening opponent Nebraska tenderizes the depthshy Utes, and if the Utah offense faces sizable deficits in any game.

Coach Ron McBride says: "We accomplished a lot of things last year, but I don't think we turned the corner. What we need to do now is do all the little things right. We've done pretty well with the big picture."

FRESNO STATE

Coach: Jim Sweeney (115-43-2, 14 years; 172-122-3 overall, 27 years).
1991 record: 10-2 (lost to Bowling Green State in

1991 FEERI: 10-2 (105t to Bowling Green State in California Bowl). Big West: 6-1/Tist. Kry Issas: Mark Barsotti, OB; Darren Boyer, LB; Emery Braxton, CB; Tony Brown, CB; Judd Foell, DE; Keland Jackson, OG; Petè Jenkins, LB; Melvin Johnson, OG; Steve Lee, DB; Kelvin Means, SE; Johnson, UG; Stave Lee, DB; Kelvin Means, St.; Marquez Pope, S; Brad Seagle, P; Jeff Thlesen, LB. Starters returals; Officase (7): Ron Collins, G, 6-5/290, Jr.; Jesse Hardwick, T, 6-5/290, Sr.; Jason James, C, 6-5/300, Soph.; Lorenzo Neal, FB, 6-0/225, Sr.; Ron Rivers, TB, 5-9/190, Jr.; Malcolleaborn, FL, 6-0/180, Jr.; Marty Thompson, TE, 6-4/240, Sr. Getase (3): James Burton, CB, 5-9/180, Jr.; Earl Cliver, E, 6-1/255, Sr.; Zack Rix, T, 6-2/270, Sr. Klekers (1): Derek Mahoney, K, 5-11/170. Jr. 170, Jr.

Other key reternees: Brad Bell, DE, Jr.; Anthony Dalgle, TB, Jr.; Trent Dilfer, QB, Soph.; Shawn Murray, LB, Soph. (RS/knee); Chris Peters, LB, Jr. (RS/ankle); Brian Porter, CB, Sr.; Michael Ross, FL, Jr.; Wendell Valentine, DE, Sr.; Tydus Winans, SE. Jr.

Top asweemers: Jamie Bennett, DT, Jr. (JC); Patrick Burke, CB, Jr. (JC); Leroy Colbert, LB, Fr.; Tony Gray, LB, Jr. (JC); Johnny Johnson, S, Jr. (JC); Charlie Jones, FL, Fr. (RS/shoulder); Bran-

tour, Uname comes, FL, FL, INS/SNOUIGER); Brandon Molale, OL, Soph. (JC).
Schodule: At Pacific, Sept. 5; at Oregon State, Sept. 12; Colorado State, Sept. 19; Washington State, Sept. 26; Louisiana Tech, Oct. 3; at Brighand Young, Oct. 10; at Hawall, Oct. 17; New Mexico, Oct. 24; Wyoming, Oct. 31; Utah, Nov. 7; at San Diego State, Nov. 21; at Texas-El Paso, Nov. 28.

Wite Passine Ruillifons.

Mickeame: Buildogs. Site: Fresno, Calif.

Outlook: After 23 years in the Big West Conference, Fresno State has become the WAC's 10th member. The other nine schools should be thankful that the Bulldogs didn't join in 1991. Coach Jim Sweeney's club must offset the loss of Mark Barsotti-the winningest quarterback in school history—and eight starting defenders. The WAC, where good defense is more concept than real-

Continued

ity, will need even more light bulbs for its scoreboards: The Bulldogs led the nation in scoring (44.2 points per game) and total offense (541.9 yards per contest) last season.

Offensive strengths: Fresno State rivals San Diego State for its annual array of skill players. Bulldog backs and receivers will embarrass opposing defenders time and again.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Trent Dilfer has only four career starts. The linemen are big, but not particu-

Defensive strengths: Zack Rix, a threeyear starter, requires two blockers. Canadian Jamie Bennett has the tools to take this unit to a higher level. Above all, Sweeney can motivate.

Defensive weaknesses: Tackle Ryan Jones, who could help, suffered a knee injury in the off-season and is questionable for 1992. The green linebackers figure to be vulnerable in the early going. And even a few injuries could cause this unit to implode against the WAC's swift offenses.

Special teams: The Bulldogs' traditionally strong punting game needs work, while Derek Mahoney will try to rebound from a closing funk in 1991.

Key to success: Can the Bulldogs, so accustomed to playing lesser opponents, sustain their effort?

Sure sign of trouble: If the offense, which must be stout, contracts turnover-itis.

Coach Jim Sweeney says: "Our moving into the WAC helped us in recruiting, but it will help us even more if we get into the WAC and win-and I don't mean half our games."

TEXAS-EL PASO

Ceseth: David Lee (8-25-1, 3 years).
1991 record: 4-7-1; WAC: 2-5-1/T6th.
Key lasses: Greg Armstrong; DT; Patrick Balley, FB;
Glenn Bishop, SE; Ansel Littlejohn, SE; Darryl
Moore, OT; Rob Sestch, C; Andy Stanton, OT; O.T.
Thomas, CB; Otha West, CB.

Moore, OT; Rob Sesich, C; Andy Stanton, OT; O.f. Thomas, CB; Othia West, CB. Startur returning: Offices (5): Donovan Anderson, G, G-4/269, Soph; Kenny, Brown, SB, 5-11/165, Jr.; Rick Canales, G, G-2/291, Sr.; Ivory Durlo, SB, 5-8/185, Jr.; Mike Percz, OB, G-0/165, Jr. Defices (18): Joel Barczak, NG, 6-1/256, Jr.; Pat. Ganson, LB, 6-0/203, Sr.; Tod Carter, S, 5-9/181, Soph.; Pookle Floyd, LB, G-3/2/19, Jr.; Anthony Rooks, S, 5-10/168, Sr.; Rickey Massey, T, 8-2/265, Sr.; Pate Shufeli, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Barron: Wortham, LB, 5-11/235, Soph, Klekers (2): Ed Bunn, P, 6-3/195, Sr.; Jason Gillespie, K, 5-9/161, Sr.; Dennis Austin, LB, Sr.; Chris Brasfield, WR, Soph.; Dennis Austin, LB, Sr.; Chris Brasfield, WR, Soph.; Dennis Austin, LB, Sr.; Chris Brasfield, WR, Soph.; George Loman, DT, Jr.; Shawn Bray, OB, Soph.; George Loman, DT, Jr.; Charles McCoy, DT, Jr. (RS/knee); David Miles, FB, Sr.; Fred Patterson, DB, Sr.; Jurge Ramirez, LB, Jr.; J., Rowfelt, WR, Soph.; Shelden Thompson, DE, Soph.
Top asweemers: Alvin Black, SE, Fr. (RS); Steve Booth, SB, Fr. (RS); John Hagg, SB, Jr. (JC); Adrian Harry, DT, Fr. (RS); John Rewton, OB, Jr. (JC); Refik Thorossinn, FB, Jr. (JC); Jesse VIllareal, OG, Fr. (RS); Lynn Walters, OL, Fr. (RS) Sekutale: Brigham Young, Sept. 5, at UNLV, Sept. 12: New Mexico State, Sept. 30; Alr. Force; Oct. 3; at Oldorado State, Oct. 10; at San Dlego State, Oct. 17; at Utah, Oct. 24; Hawaii; Oct. 31; Tulsa, Nov. 7; at New Mexico, Nov. 14; Fresno State, Nov. 28. Histuans: Miners.

at New Mexico, Nov. 14; Fresno State, Nov. 28. Nickeame: Miners 8lte: El Paso, Tex.

Outlook: The Miners rarely collected ore when near the goal line last season and may still lack the brawn to muscle into the end zone. But Coach David Lee has plumbed Texas for superb talent, particularly on defense, and he figures to reach .500 for the first time in his four seasons at Texas-El Paso.

Offensive strengths: Quarterback Mike Perez and his athletic backup, Shawn Gray, should benefit from Lee's tutelage. Slotback Kenny Brown is a plus.

Offensive weaknesses: Perez hopes he won't eat turf on every pass, but he might if three new linemen aren't wellgroomed. Until the Miners prove they can score often in the second half, their offense remains suspect. Fullback Patrick Bailey, a starter, needs to hit the books before he can hit the holes. Can anyone catch the ball deep?

Defensive strengths: Tackle Rickey Massey occupies two blockers. Linebacker Barron Wortham, a scaleddown National Football League talent. and the other six returning starters blend in well. The secondary, banged up last season, should benefit from a strong pass rush.

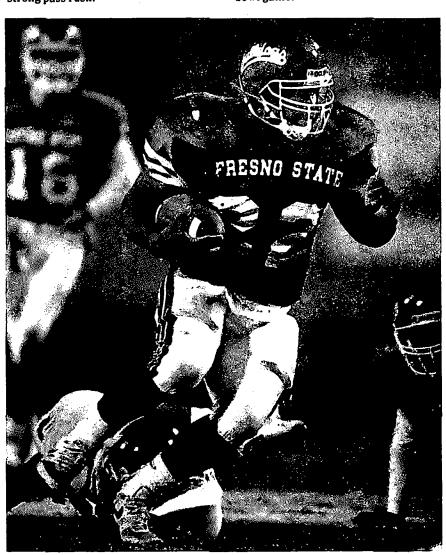
Defensive weaknesses: End Gonzalo Floyd can make big plays, but he missed spring practice because of athletic difficulties. Big opposing lines turned the smallish Miners into mere speed bumps.

Special teams: Ed Bunn, who unloads quickly, is the best in a weak punting conference. Lee gambled well, getting 10 blocked punts from his Miners in 1991. Jason Gillespie missed 44 percent of his field-goal attempts last season, and Lee surely won't tolerate such a figure this time around.

Keys to success: This team should closely contest every WAC game but must show more resolve at crunch time. Lee will incorporate a tight end in the runand-shoot offense; the running game must pay corresponding dividends.

Sure signs of trouble: If Lee begins to alternate his quarterbacks, who have disparate skills, or if the Miners are beat up going into the first of three consecutive road games.

Coach David Lee says: "Our next step is to have a winning season and go to a bowl game."



Spiteful Bulldog: Fullback Lorenzo Neal is part of an array of Fresno State skill players who will embarrass opposing defenders time and again.

Caset: Joe Tiller. (4-6-7; 1 year).
1991 meent: 4-6-1 WAC: 2-5-1/Toth.
Key kases: (con Corontzos: QB. Sean Fleming: R/K.,
Ty Muma; S. Doug Rigby: DE: Robert Rivers. WR:
Mitch: Rosebrough; OT; Dennis Ross; WR: Quentin.
Skinner; G. Eric Worden: DG.

Skinner, G. Eric Werden, DG.
Sturter, returning, Offices [8]: Terrance Hendricks, RB, 55-10/225, Soph. (Cody) Kelly, T. 65-5/290, Jr.
Matt Swenson, TE. 6-6/245, Sr. Kirk Van Roekel, G. 6-4/250, Sr. Joe. Wahlgren, T. 6-4/259, Sr. Ryan Yarborough, WR, 8-2/388, Jr. Dirtesse [8]: Brian Bowker, S. 6-1/205, Jr. Chad Cohoon, LB, 6-4/225, Sr. Ilbrail Drake, T. 6-3/259, Sr. Tum Kramer, LB, 6-3/230, Sr. Junior, Marcellus, S. 5-10/202, Sr. Cory, Talich, LB, 6-3/200, Jr., Paul Wallace, GB, 6-3/202, Sr. Kurt, Whitehead, E. 6-3/235, Jr. Kleters, None, Other key reteriesse Ryan, Christopherson, FB, Soph., Dwight Driver, RB, Sr. (RS/knee), Ryan Folsom, LB, Soph, Greg, Scantan, C., Jr., Jarod, Thiefe, LB, Sr. (RS/knee), Brent, Tillinan, WR, Soph, Thomas, Williams, DT, Jr. (RS/suspension).

sion)
Tap sewgemera: John Burrough, DE; Soph (transfer/Washington Stata); Joe Hughes (OB, Jr. (IC); Kenny, Johnson, S. Jr. (IC); Darnell Mining (IC); Kenny, Johnson, S. Jr. (IC); Darnell Mining (IC); Anthony, Young, CB, Jr. (IC); Anthony, Young, CB, Jr. (IC); Sebettie: Nevada; Sept. 55; at 1; exas (Icc). Sept. 12; Air Force: Sept. 19; at Louisville; Sept. 26; San Jose State, Oct. 31; San Diego State; Nov. 7; at Ulah; Nov. 14; at Havail; Nov. 21; Histoner, Cowboys, Site; Laramia, Wyo.

Sile: Laramie, Wyo.

Outlook: It can't get any worse than last season, when the Cowboys underwent 25 surgeries. The return of defensive tackle Thomas Williams, a blockbusting type who has recovered from a knee injury and returned from suspension, offers hope. Respectability, rather than a league crown, is an achievable goal.

Offensive strengths: An able group of tight ends should help Wyoming run the clock. Running back Dwight Driver, who sat out the final nine games of '91 because of a knee injury, is nearly back to his old form. Flanker Ryan Yarborough will force secondaries to retreat.

Offensive weaknesses: A drop-off at quarterback is likely. Tom Corontzos moved the team through all types of weather while setting school passing records. The blockers aren't great people-movers, but they should keep the new quarterback healthy.

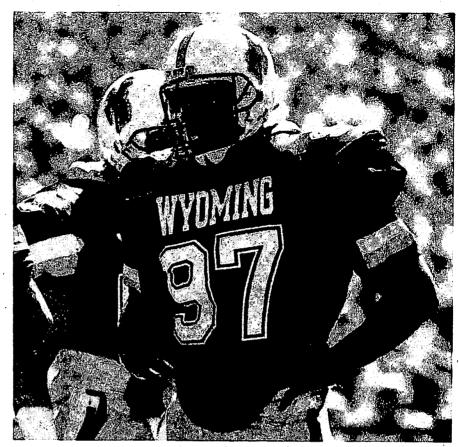
Defensive strengths: The tall front four, dismal last season, will compress the pocket if Williams pans out. Paul Wallace, an All-WAC cornerback as a sophomore, showed no ill effects in the spring from a deep groin pull. Another medical recovery: linebacker Jarod Thiele, who was the goods when healthy, appears to be over a knee in-

Defensive weaknesses: Some of these Cowboys would struggle to outrun live-

Special teams: There is nothing special about these guys—yet.

Keys to success: Health and patience. Sure sign of trouble: If Williams contributes little and the defense allows moderate deficits.

Coach Joe Tiller says: "Will we be fa-



Back for the attack: The return of tackle Thomas Williams, who has recovered from a knee injury and returned from a suspension, offers hope for the Wyoming defense.

vored to contend? Hell, no. I don't even know if they are going to let us play or not."

HAWAII

Corck: Bob Wagner (34-25-2, 5 years).
1591 record: 4-7-1, WAC: 3-5/5th.

Ker losses: Akill. Cathoun, DL: Shawn Ching. C.
Konny Harper, DB: Haku Kahcano, DL: Paul, Mandera, OT, Tony Pang-Kee, DB; Joe Sardo: LB: Rich Stevenson, RB; Jeff Sydner, SB; Terry Whitaker, LB; Manly Williams, LB.

Sterter returning: Offices 17: Darrick Branch, WR.
6-0/201, Sr.: Michael Carter, CB, 5-10/210, Jr.
Travis: Fonseca, T. 6-3/270, Jr.; Brian, Gordon, WR. 8-1/198, Jr.; Eddle Kealoha; HB: 5-9/206; Sr.
Peter Pale; G, 6-3/286, Jr.; Doug Valciett, G; 6:2/, 267, Sr.: Bethess [4]: Carlos Anderson, DB: 5-7/106, Soph: Joe Davis, DB: 5-9/169, Soph: Louis Randall; LB: 5-10/212; Sr.: Maa; Tanuvasa, L., 6-3/270; Sr.: Klekers. [1]: Jason: Elam; K/P; 5-11/ 3/270, Sr. Kickers (1): Jason Elam; K/P, 5-11/

185/Sf.
Other bay returnees: Bryan. Addison, S. Sf. LeneAmerica, C. Jf., Taase Faumul, DL, Jf., Shavondi
Johnson, L.B., Soph., Marjove Lewis, SB, Soph.
Mika: Lillil, LB, Jr., Kelly McGill, OT, Soph., Keehil
Salvador, S. Jr., Walter Santiago, DB, Sr., Travis,
Sims, RB, Sr., Junior Tagoal, DL, Sr., Stewart WilIlams, LB, Jr.

Top services: Al Alipule, LB, Ur. (JC); Robert

Blakeney UB, Fr.
Setzfirle: At Oregon, Sept. 5; at Ain Force, Sept. 12; Brigham Young, Sept. 26; at Utah, Oct. 10; Fresho State, Oct. 17; UNLY, Oct. 24; at Texas, Eli Paso, Oct. 31; Colorado State, Nov. 7; at San Diego State, Nov. 14; Wyoming, Nov. 21; Tulsa, Nov. 28; Pitts-birgh; Dec. 5. bilrgh; Dec. 5 Kicknene: Rainbows Ste: Honolulu:

Outlook: The Rainbows are a prototypical WAC team, capable of brilliance one week, incompetence the next. This phenomenon, which owes to the conference-wide lack of defensive depth, will be epitomized in Honolulu. The Rainbows will sting some teams if a core of talented players avoids injury and grade problems. If not, Hawaii will endure its second consecutive losing sea-

Offensive strengths: When Michael Carter got the option offense grooving last year, Hawaii was magic, as evidenced by its 42-point outburst against Notre Dame. The ground game should approach last season's No. 5 national ranking—but only if Doug Vaioleti's knees are sound and thus the line is opening holes as usual.

Offensive weaknesses: Carter's passes lack zip and direction. Also, Jeff Sydner, one of the nation's best all-purpose runners, declared early for the NFL

draft.

Defensive strengths: Three talented players-Maa Tanuvasa, Taase Faumui and Bryan Addison—could lift the defense to mediocrity if they're healthy.

Defensive weaknesses: Why would anyone don a helmet and slam into ballcarriers in a tropical paradise? Maybe that's why this unit has resembled a sieve. Coach Bob Wagner handled the defense last spring, because five-year coordinator Rich Ellerson took a job at Arizona.

Special teams: Punter/place-kicker Jason Elam has the best foot in the

Continued

WAC. He'll need it.

Sure sign of trouble: If opponents stuff Hawaii's running game.

Key to success: Improving a pass defense that ranked dead last (106th) in Division I-A in 1991.

Coach Bob Wagner says: "We didn't have a complete handle on our defense this spring because of injuries. If our guys stay healthy, we could be all right."

COLORADO STATE

Cosch: Earle Bruce (17-17-1, 3 years: 149-

Coten: Cates Gruce (17-17-1, o. reals, 183-2 overal), 19 years (1891 recard), 19 years (1891 recard), 18 years (1891 Recard),

dugo, OB; Adam Writmer; OG...

Shrturs returning: Offices (6): Jason Basso, T. 6-8/293, Sr.; Bob Cox, G. 6-1/259, Ur.; John Ivlow, FB, 5-10/244, Sr.; Pat Meyer, T. 6-1/270, Soph; Breg Primus, WR, 5-11/865, Sr.; Mark Smith, TE, 6-5/218, Jr.; Detase (6): Otis Hamilton, LB, 6-0/222, Sr.; Kareem Ingram; LB, 5-11/209, Soph; Kevin Lynch, E, 6-3/237, Sr.; Sylvester Mabry, CB, 5-8/166, Sr.; Sleve Norton, T. 6-2/240, Jr.; Britan Schnelder, LB, 6-1/202, Jr. Rickers None.

Other key returness: Leonice Brown, TB, Soph, Lewis Capas, DT, Jr. (HS); Billy Gonzales; WR, Sr.; Ahthony Hill, OB, Soph; Pat Ingrassia, TB, Soph; Tom Romero, FB, Jr.;
Top seveneers: Mack Craft, CB, Jr. (JC); David

Tom Romero, FB, Jr.

Top seveners: Mack Craft, CB, Jr. (JC): David Frisch, TE, Jr. (JC): Raymond Jackson, CB, Soph. (Prop. 48): Robert Marceau, LB; Jr. (JC): Robert Montoya, OT, Jr. (JC): Sebtale: At Colorado, Sept. 5; Idaho, Sept. 12; at Fresno State, Sept. 19; at Louistana State, Sept. 26; Utah, Oct. 3: Toxas-El Paso, Oct. 40; at Air Force, Oct. 17; Wyoming, Oct. 24; San Diego State, Oct. 31; at Hawall, Nov. 7; Ohio University: Nov. 14; at New Movico Nov. 21 at New Mexico, Nov. 21.

Site: Fort Collins, Colo

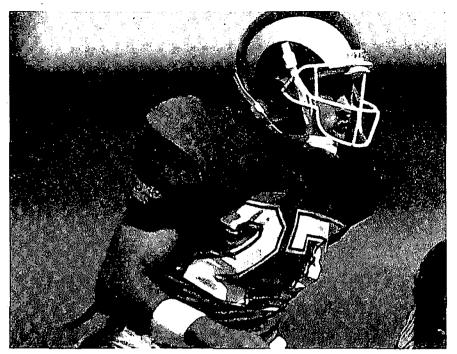
Outlook: Earle Bruce chose to take his medicine last season by redshirting an entire recruiting class. The Rams likely need another year to do much, although they will rarely, if ever, be outcoached. Offensive strengths: Wide receiver Greg Primus is a primo talent who caught 67 passes last season. Offensive tackle Jason Basso and fullback John Ivlow create avenues.

Offensive weaknesses: Losing their top two blockers and a fair quarterback will slow the Rams, although the athletic and smart Anthony Hill could become more than a handoff wizard. No, the Rams aren't moving in slow motion. Defensive strengths: If linebacker Otis Hamilton overcomes chronic knee pain, he should nurture a decent group of youngsters.

Defensive weaknesses: Only one starter returns to the secondary-left cornerback Sylvester Mabry, and Mabry was sidelined during spring drills because of a circulation problem. Barring sharp overall improvement by the Rams, Fort Collins' climate might be Colorado State's best defense in '92.

Special teams: The status of the kicking game was up in the air last spring. Bruce's young talent should enhance the Rams' coverage teams.

Sure signs of trouble: Teams putting two defensive backs on Primus without



Resourceful Ram: Colorado State wide receiver Greg Primus is a primo talent who caught 67 passes last season.

paying a price, and Hamilton and Mabry watching their fellow defenders from the sideline.

Key to success: Keeping body and soul intact at Louisiana State and Colorado. Coach Earle Bruce says: "I told my defensive staff that if we ever finish in the top 50 in defense, I'll give them a bonus out of my pockets." (Colorado State ranked 91st in Division I-A defense last year.)

NEW MEXICO

Coach: Dennis Franchione (first year, 80-19-

2 overall: 9 years). 1991 (neurd: 3-9: WAC: 2-8/T8th. Key losses: Frad Easter, IS: David Folk, LB; Mike Good, LB; Kim McCall, LB; Mark Moores, OT; Troy Rossean, P. Steve Slater, Oc. Brad Sullivan, OT. Starters returning Offices (7): Shawn Arruti, G. 6-3/1265, dr. Stoney Case, OB, 6-3/144, Soph.; Justin Hall, C. 6-2/271, Jr.; Greg Oliver, WR, 5-10/161; Sr.; Marc Wilson, BB, 5-6/176; Sr.; Carl Winston, WR, 6-1/179, Jr.; Manley Woods, WR, 6-2/163, Jr.; Ettense (7): Wille Barry, T. 6-4/247, Sr.; Jesse Becton, LB, 6-0/199, Sr.; Howard Brown, LB, 5-10/129, Sr.; Eric Jack, S. 6-0/166, Jr.; Will Martin, CB, 5-7/163, Sr.; Alex Stowell, E. 6-1/224, Sr.; Bobby, Sylvia, CB, 5-7/164, Sr.; Wickers (1): David Margolis, K, 5-10/178, Sr.; Dibir, Pay returness: Art Celestine, RB, Soph.; Scott Creagan, LB, Sr.; Marcellus Davis, RB, Jr.; Steve Green, MT, Sr.; Tull Matelalona, LB, Jr.; RS); Turhon O'Bannon, WR, Sr.; RS/knee); Hugo Cleda, K, Jr.; Jerone Williams, TE; Jr. (RS/leg). Top asweemers: Corby Hankins, OG, Jr. (JC); Bas-Rossean, P. Steve Slater, OG; Brad Sullivan, O

Ojesa, K. J.F., actions windens. F. Jr. (1871eg). Top aswesmars. Corby. Hankins, OB; Jr. (JC); Bas-com Mellon, NT, Sr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Mike Nesbitt, P. Jr. (JC); Winslow Oliver, RB, Fr. (RS/academics); Derek Spears, WR, Fr.; Eric

(15) Academics): Derek Spears, WH; FT., Eric Young, RB, Jr. (IC) Schafule: Texas Christian, Sept. 5; at New Mexico State, Sept. 12; Southern Methodist; Sept. 19; at Air Force, Sept. 26; San Diego State, Oct. 3; at Wy-oming, Oct. 10; Utah/Oct. 17; at Fresno State, Oct. 24 at Park New Years, May 7, Takes, El Park, New 18 at 19 and 19 at 19 a 24, at Brigham Young, Nov. 7, Texas-El Paso, Nov. 14, Colorado State, Nov. 21, Hichanus Lobos. Site: Albuquerque: N.M.

Outlook: This program, some coaches say, is a black hole. The latest coach to disappear, Mike Sheppard, was fired after winning just nine of 50 games in five seasons. His successor, Dennis Franchione, inherits few decent linemen and the worst rushing defense (5.9 vards per pop) in the porous WAC. The good news: Franchione is getting administrative support that Sheppard never did.

Offensive strengths: Even the worst teams in the WAC roll out elite receivers. Carl Winston, very good at several things but great at none, led the conference in catches (76) last year. His fellow receivers could punish double-team tactics. Marcus Goodloe, a former quarterback, impressed at wideout in the spring. The likely quarterback, Stoney Case, directed two victories last season after replacing Jeremy Leach.

Offensive weaknesses: Case has an adept standby in Oregon State transfer Fred Schweer but, behind the Lobos' line, he might require a host of backups. Can the offense, accustomed to the run-and-shoot, make Franchione's oneback attack work?

Defensive strengths: Steve Green and Eric Jack provide toughness up the middle.

Defensive weaknesses: There's not enough space to detail them.

Special teams: Transfer Mike Nesbitt powdered punts last spring. A sheer lack of talent hinders the coverage

Sure sign of trouble: The mildest of injury rashes or illness.

Key to success: The patience of Job.

Coach Dennis Franchione says: "We're starting to put some enthusiasm back into the program, some work ethic, some competitiveness. The kids will play hard every Saturday."

SCOUTING THE WESTERN ATHEMS

Ascending: Utah and Texas-El Paso. Like so many good coaches, Utah's Ron McBride is a former offensive lineman. He's building a rare commodity—an effective WAC defense. Under McBride, Utah has improved

its Mormon recruiting while also tapping into the talented Mississippi community college system. Like McBride, UTEP Coach David Lee emphasizes stopping people. With eight starters back on defense, the Miners should be in every game.

Descending: Hawaii and Colorado State.

The Rainbows are coming off their first losing season since 1987 and also lost five-year defensive coordinator Rich Ellerson. The Rams are learning they must rebuild, not reload.

Nightmare schedule: Brigham Young, San Diego State and Colorado State. Aside from playing Notre Dame, Penn State and UCLA, the Cougars must finish at Air Force and Utah. The Aztecs begin with Southern Cal, BYU and UCLA. They close with Miami (Fla.). Of a test that includes games at Colorado and Louisiana State, Colorado State Coach Earle Bruce said: "I don't believe in that schedule, but we've got to play it."

Dream schedule: Air Force. Seven home games. Eight opponents coming off losing seasons. No more Notre Dame—at least for two years. We kid you not: A 7-0 start is possible.

Best matchup of the year: Hardly a surprise—San Diego State vs. BYU. Last season, the Aztecs led, 45-17, with 16 minutes remaining and then settled for—can you believe this?—a 52-52 tie. ESPN will air this one on a Thursday night from Provo. Both teams, however, might still be ailing from their September 5 openers.

Worst matchup of the year: New Mexico at BYU, November 7. If the Cougars are smarting from a Halloween loss to Penn State, they will take it out on the Lobos in a big way.

Shocker of the year: UTEP will upend Brigham Young in the opener (be forewarned, LaVell Edwards). The Miners muffed two kicks, or they would have won in Provo last season. This time, they won't gag.

Bowl bound: San Diego State, BYU and Air Force. Utah, Fresno State and UTEP should retain their travel agents, too.

Biggest shoes to fill: Ty Detmer's. The quarterback could win political office in Utah. Steve Clements and John Walsh are good enough, though, to

blur memories of Detmer, who lacked a firm surrounding cast at BYU.

Most underrated player: Robert Griffith, DB, San Diego State. A former walk-on, Griffith would seem to be just another member of what has

been a sorry defense. But he is required to fill a nearly impossible cornerback/linebacker role. He buoyed the Aztecs for the first 10 games last season but got worn down, and

the Aztecs never won again.

Impact newcomers:
The Fresno State
football program,
which will be making its WAC debut;
La'Roi Glover, NT,
San Diego State,
Fr.; Shawn Smith,
LB, San Diego
State, Jr. (transfer/Notre Dame);
Clements, QB,
BYU, Soph. (transfer/Texas); Corby

Hankins, OG, New Mexico, Jr. (JC). Coach of the year: McBride, Utah. His peers ring sincere in their praise.

Coach on the hot seat: Bob Wagner, Hawaii. He must make do with only modest talent and without his top assistant.

Best bets: Every defender who faces San Diego State will attempt to bury number 28, Marshall Faulk. . . . A WAC team (maybe even two) will blow a five-touchdown lead. . . . Every WAC coach will say the defenses don't really stink—it's that the offenses are great. . . . Fresno State's Jim Sweeney will outsmart many of his new coaching rivals. . . . BYU's eight WAC opponents will privately allege that the Cougars should be penalized more for holding.

Odds and ends: San Diego State aspires to national prominence, but Coach Al Luginbill's Aztecs haven't beaten BYU in three attempts. . . . From the macho file: "Our fastest, meanest, hairy-chested players go play defense at UTEP," Coach Lee says. . . . Three reasons why firstyear Coach Dennis Franchione believes he eventually will turn New Mexico into a winner: 1. The administration is becoming as committed to football success as it has been to basketball success. 2. Funds have been earmarked to upgrade football facilities. 3. The NCAA's reduction to 85 football scholarships will help the little guys. . . . Franchione has squeezed blood from other turnips, including Division I-AA Southwest Texas State. He went 13-9 at that school, which had endured five consecutive losing seasons. . . . Franchione says his Lobos are learning to abide by his attendance policy: Go to class, or your teammates must run at 6 o'clock. In the morning. . . . New Mexico isn't celebrating Fresno State's entry into the WAC. The Lobos lost to the Bulldogs, 94-17, in Fresno last season.

-TOM KRASOVIC

HONOR ROLL

Best effestive line:
Brightam Young.
Best offestive backfield:
Sen Diego State
Best backing quarterback:
John Walsh, Brightam Young:
Best wife receivers:
Frestio State
Best cities receiver:
Eric Orage, Brightam Young;
Best diffusive line:

Rest-fitting defeasive lineman.
Zack Rix, Freeno State
Rest Instruktive
Toxas-El Paso •
Best-hilling linebuckuri
Barron Wortham, Texas-El Paso
Best scondary,
Alf, Fortes
Rest-hilling defeasive back:
Sharrieff Shah, Utah
Best ktoking game*

Best blok-caverage unite:
Utah
Best spaching staff:
Brigham Young
Best coach:
LaVel Edwards, Brigham Young:
Best halmen condidate:
Marchall Faulk, San Diego State
Best pro prospect:
Darnay Scott, San Diego State

RETURNING LEADERS

Bushleg: Marshall Faulk, San Diego State, 158 Byds, /game (201 att. 1,429 yds., 21.TDs, 7,1 avg.).

Passing: efficiency: David Lowery, San Diego State, 138.6:rating pis: (311 att., 176 comp., 2,575 yds., 19 TDs).

Tetil offense: Frank Doice, Utah, 223.4 yds./ yame (13 yds. rushing, 2,444 yds. passing, 2,457 total yds.)

Bestiving: Carl Winston, New Mexico, 6.3 rec./ game (76 rec., 1,177 yds.,77 Ds. 15.5 avg.).

Scorlag: Marshall Faulk, San Diego State, 15.6 pis:/game (23 TDs., 12-pt. PAT.,0.F6s, 140 pis:/game (23 TDs., 12-pt. PAT.,0.F6s, 140 pis:/game (8 mm, UTEP, 42.5 avg. (63 punts, 2,67 5 yds.).

Post returns: Brad Clark, Brigham Young, 13.5 avg. (20 att., 269 yds., 1 TD).

Kletoff returns: Darrick Branch, Hawall, 24.6 avg. (22 att.,542 yds., 1 TD).

Field goals: Jason Elam, Hawall, 1.6 FG/game (19/24 F6s, 79%.)

Interopticat: Carlton McDonald, Air Force, 0.50 Int./game (6 int., 76 yds., 1 TD).



A leg up: Having a kicker like Jason Elam gives Hawaii an edge over the competition.

Rugged 'individualists' going by the wayside

n 1991, the Atlantic Coast, Big East and Big Ten conferences pillaged the rich coffers of the once-proud football individualists—the independents. This season, an unlikely assailant plundered many of the remaining

The struggling Big West, rocked by recent defection (Fresno State), collapse (Long Beach State) and financial woe (Cal State Fullerton), has looked eastward for scheduling security and financial stability.

Beginning with the 1993 season, Louisiana Tech, Northern Illinois, Southwestern Louisiana and NCAA Division I-A newcomer Arkansas State will join an unlikely football consortium with the remaining Big West schools, geography be damned. Those bemoaning this year's thin independent ranks should wait until next season, when Notre Dame and the nine remaining autonomous teams try to carry on the long tradition of self-reliance.

Sort of. Notre Dame is solid enough nationally to survive on its own forever, and the two service academies—Army and Navy—are similarly predisposed to going it alone. But five of the remaining seven-Cincinnati, East Carolina, Memphis State, Southern Mississippi and Tulsa-have formed a loose confederation of their own, the Independent Football Alliance, for 1993. These schools plan to play each other on a regular basis, keep weekly statistics and power ratings and give individual awards to players on member schools. Louisville and Tulane, at least for the time being, remain wholly independent.

While this year's version of conference musical chairs continues. Penn State will be ending a 105-year run as an independent. Next season, the Nittany Lions will join the Big Ten as a full member, playing an eight-game league schedule.

NOTRE DAME

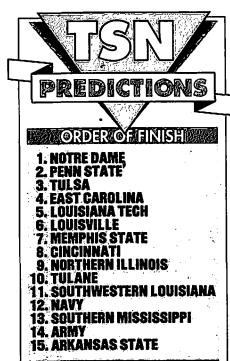
Coach: Lou Holtz (56-17, 6 years; 172-82-5

Ceach: Lou Holtz (56-17, 6 years; 172-82-5 overall, 22 years).

1991 resert: 10-3 (beat Fronds in Sugar Bowl).

Key lesses: Tony Brooks: TE: Derek Brown: TE: Rodney, Culver: TB: Mirko, Jurkovle; OB; Gene McGulre, C; Rod Smith, S; Tony Smith, SE.

Startura returalgy: Offers: [8]: Jerome Bettls: FB: 8-0/247, Jr.; Liske Dawson: FL: 6-1/202; Jr.; Lustin Hall, T, 6-4/297, Sr.; Lindsay Knapp, T. 6-8/271, Sr.; Rick Miret, DB: 6-2/217, Sis, Aaron Taylor, G: 6-4/294, Jr.; Ortess: [10]: Pete Bercich, LB: 8-1/230, Jr.; Junior Bryant, T: 6-5/283, Sr.; Jeff Burnts, S; 6-0/194, Jr.; Tom: Carter, CB: 5-11/184, Jr.; John Covington; LB: 6-2/97, Jr.; Demetrius: Disease, LB: 6-2/234, Sr.; Ertc Jones, T: 8-8/254, Sr.; Davon McDonald; E: 6-4/241, Sr.; Karmeeleyah McSill, E: 8-3/224, Sr.; Ertc Jones, T: 8-8/254, Sr.; Other key returness: Lee Becton, TB: Soph.; Reggle Brooks, TB: Sr.; Willie Clark, TB: Jr.; (moved from CB): Paul Falla, OB; Soph.; Oliver Glison, DE; Jr.; Ray Griggs: FL: Sr.; Gordan Halter; OT, Sr.; Germaine Holden, DE; Soph.; Clint Johnson, FL: Jr.; Lance Johnson, C.; Sr.; Grep, Lance CB, Jr.; Mike



Miller, SE, Soph. (RS); Todd Norman, OG, Sr.; Tim Ruddy, G, Jr.; Irv Smith, TE, Sr. Top newcemers: Anthony Jones, DE, Fr., Bobby Taylor, DB, Fr.
Setsdele: Northwestern (at Chicago), Sept. 5;
Michigan; Sept. 12; at. Michigan State, Sept. 19;
Purdue, Sept. 26; Stanford, Oct. 3; at Pittsburgh,
Oct. 10; Brigham Young, Oct. 24; at Navy, Oct. 31;
Boston College, Nov. 7; Penn State, Nov. 14; at
Southern California, Nov. 28. Mehama: Fighting Irish. Site: South Bend, Ind.

Outlook: In Rick Mirer and Jerome Bettis, the Irish have two of the nation's



Deadly combination: Penn State outside linebacker Rich McKenzie has speed and strength.

premier skill-position players. But the defense, which has been battered for almost 400 yards per game over the last two years, is a big concern. Notre Dame needs major improvement on that side of the line to have a legitimate shot at the national championship.

Offensive strengths: The Irish should have few problems putting points on the scoreboard. Bettis is as hard to bring down as a tank, and Mirer's right arm is deadly. Clint Johnson, Ray Griggs and Michael Miller are speedy receivers who should catch a lot of passes.

Offensive weaknesses: Tailback is a question mark. Last season's secondand third-leading Irish rushers, Tony Brooks and Rodney Culver, have graduated, leaving senior Reggie Brooks (Tony's younger brother) and sophomore Lee Becton to fill the vold. Former cornerback Willie Clark, who sat out spring ball to concentrate on academics, is another possibility.

Defensive strengths: The nucleus of last year's defense is back, but is that good? After all, the Irish allowed more than 200 yards rushing per game and opposing quarterbacks completed 61 percent of their passes. Standout linebackers Demetrius DuBose and Devon Mc-Donald need help.

Defensive weaknesses: The play of the front seven has been particularly poor, with practically no pass rush to speak of. Even the defense's strength-the secondary-has been left somewhat inexperienced by Clark's departure.

Special teams: The Irish have one of the nation's best kickers in senior Craig Hentrich, an accurate long-range fieldgoal kicker and a strong punter. Clark, Johnson and Miller will be used on kick returns.

Keys to success: Better defense. And the tailbacks must contribute enough to keep opponents from keying too much on Mirer and Bettis.

Coach Lou Holtz says: "Our defense has to improve an awful lot. If we don't improve a lot, it will be a long, long year."

PENN STATE

Coach: Joe Paterno (240-62-3, 26 years). 1991 record: 11-2 (beat Tennessee in Flesta

Key losses: Todd Burger, OT, Jim Deter, NT; Mark D'Onofrio, LB; Mac Gallagher, OG; Sam Gash, FB; Keith Goganious, LB; Al Golden, TE; Doug Helkowski, P; Leonard Humphries, CB; Darren Perry, DB; Tony Sacca, QB; Paul Slever, OG/OT; Terry Smith, WR.

Starters returning: Officese (4): Richile Anderson, TB, 6-2/216, Jr.; John Gerak, G. 6-5/270, Sr.; Greg Huntington, C. 6-3/274, Sr.; O.J. McDuffle, WR, 5-10/185, Sr. Beitzse (6): Lou Benfatti, T, 6-3/270, Jr.; Derek Bochna, CB, 5-10/186, Jr.; Reggie Giverning Communication (1988). ens, LB, 6-0/218, Sr.; Rich McKenzie, LB, 6-3/ 235, Sr.; Eric Ravotti, T/LB, 6-3/247, Sr.; Lee Rubin, S, 5-9/184, Jr. Klekers [1]: Craig Fayak, K,

Continuea



Preseason all-independents team

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

OFFENSE



Rick Mirer, QB, Notre Dame

DEFENSE



Demetrius DuBose, LB, Notre Dame

NEWCOMERS OF YEAR

OFFENSE: LeShon Johnson, TB, Northern Illinois DEFFENSE:

Bobby Taylor, DB, Notre Dame

FIRSTATEAM OFFENSE

Pes.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
WR	LAKE DAWSON, Notre Dame	6-1/202	Jr.
WR	O.J. McDUFFIE, Penn State	5-10/185	Sr.
TE	KYLE BRADY, Penn State	6-6/255	Soph
	JUSTIN HALL, Notre Dame	6-4/297	Sr.
Ť	TOM SCOTT, East Carolina	6-7/338	Sr.
	E.J. SANDUSKY, Penn State	6-4/260	Sr.
	MARK GOVI. Tulsa	6-5/287	Sr.
Ğ	AARON TAYLOR, Notre Dame	6-4/294	Ĵ۲.
QB	RICK MIRER, Notre Dame	6-2/217	Sr.
RB	JEROME BETTIS, Notre Dame	6-0/247	Jr.
RB	RON JACKSON, Tulsa	6-1/221	Sr.
	DEFENICE		

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Class
DL	LOU BENFATTI, Penn State	6-3/270	Jr.
DL	TYOKA JACKSON, Penn State	6-2/250	J۲.
DL	BRYANT YOUNG, Notre Dame	6-3/271	Jr.
DL	DEVON McDONALD, Notre Dame	6-4/241	Sr.
LB	JERRY DILLON, East Carolina	6-4/215	Sr.
LB	DEMETRIUS DuBOSE, Notre Dame	6-2/234	Sr.
LB	REGGIE GIVENS, Penn State	6-0/218	Sr.
DB	RAY BUCHANAN, Louisville	5-9/190	Sr.
DB	TOM CARTER, Notre Dame	5-11/184	Jr.
DB	GREG GRANDISON, East Carolina	6-2/218	Sr.
DB	LEE RUBIN, Penn State	5-9/184	Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Name. School CRAIG HENTRICH, Notre Dame CRAIG HENTRICH, Notre Dame	HL/WL 6-1/197 6-1/197	Class Sr. Sr.
Oldrig HEITThon, none band	0 17 107	٠
	CRAIG HENTRICH, Notre Dame	CRAIG HENTRICH, Notre Dame 6-1/197

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Name Cahasi	UI /WI	Class
WAYDE BUTLER, SW Louisiana	6-0/180	Sr.
WILBERT URSIN, Tulane	6-1/177	Sr.
IRV SMITH, Notre Dame	6-4/246	Sr.
LINDSAY KNAPP, Notre Dame	6-6/271	Sr.
WILLIE ROAF, Louisiana Tech	6-5/290	Sr.
TIM RUDDY, Notre Dame	6-3/278	Jr.
JEFF KING, Memphis State	6-2/250	Jr.
MIKE MALINOSKI, Penn State	6-2/260	Jr.
LANCE HARP, Cincinnati	6-5/220	Jr.
RICHIE ANDERSON, Penn State	6-2/216	Jr.
JASON DAVIS, Louisiana Tech	6-2/224	Sr.
	IRV SMITH, Notre Dame LINDSAY KNAPP, Notre Dame WILLIE ROAF, Louisiana Tech TIM RUDDY, Notre Dame JEFF KING, Memphis State MIKE MALINOSKI, Penn State LANCE HARP, Cincinnati	WAYDE BUTLER, SW Louisiana WILBERT URSIN, Tulane IRV SMITH, Notre Dame LINDSAY KNAPP, Notre Dame G-6/271 WILLIE ROAF, Louisiana Tech TIM RUDDY, Notre Dame JEFF KING, Memphis State MIKE MALINOSKI, Penn State LANCE HARP, Cincinnatl RICHIE ANDERSON, Penn State G-2/216

DFFFNSF

	26 6 76	V	12.41
Pos.	Name, School	Ht./Wt.	Clas
DL	JAMES ATKINS, SW Louisiana	6-6/299	Sr.
DL	CHRIS HOBBS, Memphis State	6-1/225	Sr.
DL	ERIC JONES, Notre Dame	6-5/254	Sr.
DL	ROB WAGNER, Northern Illinois	6-4/252	Sr.
LB	DANTON BARTO, Memphis State	6-0/235	Jr.
LB	RICH McKENZIE, Penn State	6-3/235	Sr.
LB	BARRY MINTER, Tuisa	6-3/235	Sr.
DB	DEREK BOCHNA, Penn State	5-10/188	Jr.
08	JEFF BURRIS, Notre Dame	6-0/194	Jr.
OB	CHAD CHATLOS, Navy	5-11/191	Sr.
DB	MIKE McELRATH, Army	5-11/185	Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name, School	HL/WL	Class
PK	CRAIG FAYAK, Penn State	6-1/186	Jr.
₽	JEFF BUFFALOE, Memphis State	6-0/195	Sr.

Other key reterness: Kyle Brady, TE, Soph.; Kerry Collins, OB, Soph.; Troy Drayton, TE, Sr.; Bobby Engram, WR, Soph.; Ivory Gethers, LB, Sr.; Mark Graham, CB, Sr.; Shelly Hammonds, DB, Jr.; Tyoka Jackson, DT, Jr.; Chip LaBarca, WR, Sr.; Mike Malinoski, OG, Jr.; J.T. Morris, FB, Soph.; Brian O'Neal, FB, Jr.; Todd Rucci, OT, Sr.; E.J. Sandusky, C. Sr.: Tisen Thomas WR, Sr.

C, Sr.; Tisen Thomas, WR, Sr.
Tep newcomers: KI-Jana Carter, RB, Fr. (RS); Keith
Conlin, OG, Fr. (RS); Jeff Hartings, OG, Fr. (RS);
Marco Rivera, C, Fr. (RS).

Marco Hivera, C., Fr. (HS).
Schedels: At Cincinnati, Sept. 5; Temple, Sept. 12;
Eastern Michigan, Sept. 19; Maryland, Sept. 26; at
Rutgers, Oct. 3; Miami (Fiz.), Oct. 10; Boston College, Oct. 17; at West Virginia, Oct. 24; at Brigham
Young, Oct. 31; at Notre Dame, Nov. 14; Pitts-

burgh, Nov. 21. Ricksame: Nittany Lions. Site: University Park, Pa.

Outlook: The Nittany Lions spend a season in limbo while waiting to begin Big Ten play. Since the newfangled bowl alliance has effectively frozen them out of the New Year's Day "classics," the Nittany Lions figure to make the Blockbuster Bowl very happy (the two parties reached an accord in May). Despite the departure of 12 starters, Penn State has a shot at double-digit victories again. Hey, didn't Brigham Young once win a national title in the Holiday Bowl? Offensive strengths: The Nittany Lions boast some speed at the running back and wide receiver positions. Junior tailback Richie Anderson is the school's next marquee back, and O.J. McDuffie

has big-play potential at split end.
Offensive weaknesses: Sophomore
Kerry Collins inherits the quarterback
spot from four-year starter Tony Sacca

and hasn't taken too many snaps. Expect Penn State to grind it out. Three new starting linemen must be culled from the usual assortment of high school All-Americas.

Defensive strengths: Tackles Lou Benfatti and Tyoka Jackson are terrors, and outside linebackers Rich McKenzle and Reggie Givens have speed and strength.

Defensive weaknesses: The departure of Mark D'Onofrio and Keith Goganious leaves huge holes in the middle of Penn State's 3-4 defense.

Key to success: If Collins takes charge of the offense and the Lions have a sizable time-of-possession edge on opponents.

Sure sign of trouble: If Collins has to throw 20 times a game.

Coach Joe Paterno says: "I think we have a good football team coming back, with a chance to be outstanding. Some things have to fall into place, and we have some good competition to show us how good we are. I told the team to go out, play the schedule as well as they can, and at the end of the year, see what happens (bowl-wise)."

3/TULSA

Coach: Dave Rader (23-23, 4 years).
1991 record: 10-2 (beat San Diego State in Freedom Bowl).
Key lasses: Louis Curtis, DB; Todd Hays, LB; Chris Hughley, TB; Todd McGuire, C; Jerry Ostroski, OG; T.J. Rubley, QB; Tracy Scroggins, DE; Fallen Wacasey; TE; Michael White, LB.

Starters returaling: Offense [6]: Bill Buehner, TE, 6-1/235, Sr.; Mark Govi, G, 6-5/287, Sr.; Mark Laskey, G, 6-2/268, Jr.; Chris Penn, SE, 8-2/193, Sr.; J. Paul Russell, T. 6-4/302, Sr.; Brian Thompson, SE, 6-1/194, Sr. Betense [7]: James Blake, DB, 5-11/195, Jr.; Chris Bratcher, LB, 6-2/264, Sr.; Stephen Ford, DB, 5-11/169, Sr.; Dennis Hickey, DB, 6-0/168, Sr.; Phil Holmes, T, 6-1/285, Sr.; Barry Minter, LB, 6-3/235, Sr.; Aaron Tallman, DE, 6-3/259, Sr.; Kickers [2]: Gus Frerotte, P. (also plays QB), 6-4/226, Jr.; Eric Lange, K, 6-0/180, Sr. Other key returiese: Dunstan Anderson, DE, Jr.; James Bailey, LB, Jr.; Brian Brown, DB, Jr. (RS/kep); Billy Cole, LB, Jr.; Brian Brown, DB, Jr. (RS/kep); Billy Cole, LB, Jr.; Herbert Harvey, DB, Sr.; Willie Hill, DB, Sr.; Abe Hoskins, WR, Jr. (RS/knee); Ron Jackson, TB, Sr.; Daryle Johnson, LB, Jr.; Cory Lax, DT, Soph.; Mark Matheson, QB, Sr.; Phil Nitowski, HB, Jr.; Chandler Norton, CB, Sr.; Keith Roller, OT, Sr.; Will Russell, DT, Sr.; Lou Spanos, C, Sr.

Gr. Tep. Beweemers: Coco Butter, DT, Fr. (RS); Kenny Gunn, TB, Fr. (RS); Patrick Williams, TB, Fr. (RS). Schedile: Houston, Sept. 5; at Texas A&M, Sept. 12; Kansas, Sept. 19; at Oklahoma State, Sept. 26; at Southern Mississippi, Oct. 3; Southwest Missouri State, Oct. 10; at Louisville, Oct. 17; Memphis State, Oct. 24; Southwestern Louislana, Oct. 31; Texas-El Passo, Nov. 7; at Hawail, Nov. 28.

Site: Tulsa, Okla.

Outlook: The Golden Hurricane is brimming with confidence after winning 10 games a year ago (including their last seven) and finishing the season ranked No. 21 in two major polls. Trying to find replacements for one of the school's most talented senior classes ever, however, won't be easy.

Offensive strengths: Ron Jackson, who gained 211 yards in the Freedom Bowl win over San Diego State, will be the featured back. Guard Mark Govi leads

a strong offensive line. Chris Penn is a big-play wide receiver.

Offensive weaknesses: Quarterback Gus Frerotte has a powerful arm, but he played poorly when filling in for the injured T.J. Rubley in 1990. He attempted only 12 passes last season. Tulsa also must find a new center.

Defensive strengths: Linebacker Barry Minter recorded 89 tackles and five sacks and picked off three passes last season. A secondary that allowed just 144.2 yards per game returns almost intact.

Defensive weaknesses: The hunt is on for a middle linebacker and a passrushing lineman. Chris Bratcher, a noseguard last year, is being moved to linebacker. Dunstan Anderson, a former wide receiver, is being moved to defensive end. Can they fill the bill?

Special teams: Eric Lange made 16 of 19 field goals in 1991, but his kickoffs, which frequently went out of bounds, were often short. Frerotte is a capable, if unspectacular, punter.

Keys to success: Frerotte must develop into a team leader and Jackson and Penn must stay healthy.

Sure sign of trouble: If Tulsa is unable to move the ball consistently on the ground, putting unneeded pressure on Frerotte and forcing the offense to throw more.

Coach Dave Rader says: "We'll have to play very well to get it done against this schedule. If we do, maybe it won't be as much of a surprise to people."

4/EAST CAROLINA

Cosch: Steve Logan (first year as head coach).

1991 record: 11-1 (beat North Carolina State in Peach Bowl)

Key losses: Keith Arnold, C; Jeff Blake, OB; Ken Burnette, LB; David Daniels, RB; Luke Fisher, TE; Hunter Gallimore, WR; Grey Gardill, DT; Chris Hall, DB; John Jett, P; Dion Johnson, WR; Robert Jones,

DB; John Jatt, F; Dion Johnson, WN; Repert Johes, LB; Mike McCalop, OS:

Startur reterating: Offices [5]: Ken Crawford, G, 6-5/266, Jr.; Tom Scott, T. 6-7/338, Sr.; Cedric Van Buren, RB, 5-10/185, Sr.; Ronnie Williams, WR, 6-0/176, Sr.; Nick Wilson, T, 6-4/265, Sr. Detase [6]: Bernard Carter, E; 6-3/236, Jr.; Zalm Cummula], NG, 6-1/240, Sr.; derry, Dillon, DE/OLB, 6-4/215, Sr.; Greg Floyd, DB, 5-10/180, Jr.; Greg Grandison, S, 6-2/216, Sr.; Fred Walker, DB, 5-11/197, Soph. Kiektra. [1]: Antitiony Brenner, K, 5-9/169,

Olher toy returnees: Michael Anderson, QB, Soph.; Adrian Barnhill, LB; Sr.; Tom Coleman; Q6, Jr.; Jeff Cocke, DT, Jr.; Carlester Crumpler, TE, Jr.; Clayton Driver, WR, Sr.; Ernie Lewis, LB, Sr.; Sean McConnell, QB, Sr.; Derek Taylor; DT, Jr.

Top newcemens: Derek Batson, RB, Fr. (RS); Carlos Blake, RB, Fr. (RS); Lloyd Cameron, DL, Fr.; Hank Cooper, S, Fr. (RS); David Crumble, CB, Fr. (RS); Dla Hicks, WR, Jr. (JC); Morris Foreman, DB, Fr.; Morris Letcher, WR, Soph. (JC); Lewis Lowe, LB, Ir. (JC)

37. (U.). Sept. 15; Virginia Tech, Sept. 12; at South Cardina; Sept. 18; at Bowling Green State, Sept. 26; at Duke, Oct. 10; Cincinnall, Oct. 17; at Pittsburgh, Oct. 24; Southern Mississippi, Oct. 29; at West Virginia, Nov. 7; Arkansas State, Nov. 14; at Memphis State, Nov. 21; Nicharate Pirates.

Site: Greenville, N.C.

Outlook: Steve Logan, the mastermind behind last year's high-powered East Carolina offense, begins his first year as head coach. The Pirates can't rest on



The main man: Ron Jackson, who gained 211 yards in Tulsa's Freedom Bowl win over San Diego State, will be the Hurricane's featured back.

the laurels of last season, especially with another demanding schedule.

Offensive strengths: The addition of junior college transfers Morris Letcher and Dia Hicks combined with veteran Clayton Driver gives the Pirates a corps of receivers to rival that of last year's team. Tight end Carlester Crumpler is primed to have a big season after two years of injuries and backing up Luke Fisher. The offensive line is anchored by 6-foot-7, 338-pound All-America candidate Tom Scott.

Offensive weaknesses: Inexperience at quarterback, where Michael Anderson and Sean McConnell are battling for the starting nod, could hamper the Pirates early. The line also has a big hole to fill at center, where Keith Arnold started the last three years.

Defensive strengths: The return of Jerry Dillon and Bernard Carter means the Pirates have two bona fide big-play men. The secondary, which was a weak spot last year, should be much improved with the return of three starters, including All-America candidate Greg Grandison.

Defensive weaknesses: Inside linebacker, the strength of the Pirates last season, could be the weak link this year. Injuries at the position could be devastating. An undersized line will be better, but stopping the run remains a concern.

Special teams: The Pirates must replace John Jett, one of the national leaders in net punting last year. Anthony Brenner is back to handle placekicking duties. Hicks will fill the role of return specialist, a job held down by Dion Johnson last season.

Key to success: Getting consistent play at quarterback because of Logan's complex and explosive offense. A few newcomers must learn the system and make some early contributions.

Sure sign of trouble: Any injuries on the defensive side of the ball.

Coach Steve Logan says: "The talent level, in my opinion, is as good as that of last year. My concern is the maturity level. Everywhere you look, there's a redshirt freshman or redshirt sophomore."

5/LOUISIANA TECH

Coach: Joe Raymond Peace (24-17-3, 4

1991 record: 8-1-2.

Key losses: Alan Apple, OB; Lorenza Baker, LB; Glenn Hunt, OT; Gene Johnson, QB; Demise Loyd, S; Howard McMahan, DE; Cedric Singleton, CB; Pat Wilson, LB.

Other key returnese: John Boyd, CB, Sr.; Jason Cooper, RB, Soph.; Shannon Cornellus, DE, Sr.; Chris Gray, CB, Soph.; Sam Hughes, QB, Sr.; David Parker, OT, Sr.; Herman Piete, LB, Sr.; Baron Rollins, QG, Sr.; Jerome Thomas, TE, Soph.

Top sevenment: Jerry Byrd, DT, Fr. (RS); Wilford Carter, CB, Fr. (RS); Russell Clark, OB, Jr. (JC); Greg Davidson, DT, Fr. (RS); Sean Batchell, C, Fr. (RS); Clark, DR, Dr. (JC); Clark, DR, Dr. (JC); Clark, Dr.

(RS); Cliff Parks, WR, Jr. (JC).

Schride: At Baylor, Sept. 5: Eastern Michigan,
Sept. 12; at Southern Mississippl, Sept. 19; at Alabama, Sept. 26; at Fresno State, Oct. 3; Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 10; East Tennessee State,
Oct. 17; Arkansas State, Oct. 31; at South Carolina,
Nov. 7; at Mississippi, Nov. 14; at West Virginia,
Nov. 21.

Mickeyne: Bulldogs. Site: Ruston, La.

Continued

Outlook: Louisiana Tech fans are becoming accustomed to winning seasons. This year should be no exception, even though the Bulldogs must play a tough schedule. Louisiana Tech's schedule figures to gain more continuity next season, when it begins play in the Big West Conference.

Offensive strengths: The return of three starters up front, including standout Willie Roaf, is a welcome sight for quarterback Sam Hughes. Paul Bland, Corey Parham, Jerald Kennedy and Wade Christensen form a veteran receiving corps. Jason Davis and Jason Cooper anchor the ground game.

Offensive weaknesses: Louisiana Tech must fill the gaps left by three-year starters Glenn Hunt and Alan Apple on the line.

Defensive strengths: The Bulldogs return all but one starter from last year's line. Tackles Artie Smith and Kavin Crawford are two-year regulars, and end Steve Wilson enters his second season as a starter. Linebacker Myron Baker could earn All-America mention. Defensive weaknesses: Aside from free safety Carey Broudy, the secondary lacks depth. The Bulldogs must find replacements for departed linebackers Lorenza Baker and Pat Wilson.

Special teams: The return of placekicker Chris Boniol and punter Daryl Altic makes this a solid unit. Boniol is coming off a disappointing season, but he has terrific range. Altic should improve his 38.7-yard average.

Key to success: How well the Bulldogs respond to their globe-trotting schedule, which includes seven road games.

Sure sign of trouble: If Hughes goes down early with an injury. Reserves Aaron Ferguson and Chris Vallery have little experience.

Coach Joe Raymond Peace says: "Obviously, we would prefer to play more at home, but this is the price you pay when you begin on the kind of journey this program is now on. But it also presents a tremendous opportunity for us. We need a breakthrough year against some respected programs, and I believe this could be that year."

6/LOUISVILLE

Coach: Howard Schnellenberger (34-42-2, 7 years; 75-58-2 overall, 12 years).

1991 record: 2-9.

Key losses: Willam Blackford, CB; Billy Bosworth, O1; Carey Figg, C; Derek Hawthorne; S; Brian Hayes, DE; Fred Jones, WR; Ricky McFadden, CB; Mei Mills, DE; Erlk Watts, QB; Klaus Wilmsmeyer, K; Randy Wyatt, WR.

R; Handy Wyd.; Wr. Starter iteralas: Offices (6): Kevin Blumeter, T. 6-3/268, Sr.; Greg Brohm, SE, 6-0/161, Sr.; Ralph Dawkins; FB, 5-9/210, Jr.; Dave Debold, G, 6-2/265, Jr.; Jose Benzalez, TE, 6-4/209, Sr.; Shawn Rodriguez, T, 6-5/242, Sr. Ostense [8]: Ray Buchanan, S, 5-9/190, Sr.; Rawte Bynce, S, 5-11/174, Sr.; Tom Cavallo, LB, 6-3/220, Jr.; Jim Hanna, T, 6-4/240, Jr.; Robert Knuutila, CB, 5-11/181, Jr.; Leonard Ray, T, 6-3/265, Jr.; Brevin Smith, E, 8-2/232, Sr.; Ben Sumpter, LB, 6-1/208, Jr.; Ktekers [1]: Brandon Brookfield, P, 6-0/185, Sonh

Other key returness: Jamle Asher, TE, Soph.; Matt Axline, OT, Sr.; Anwar Bell, LB, Soph.; Jeff Brohm, OB, Jr. (RS/medical); Kevin Cook, FL, Jr.; Andy Culley, LB, Sr.; Tony Edelen, RB, Soph.; Kevin Gaines, CB, Jr.; Ivey Henderson, LB, Jr.; Marcus Hill, LB, Soph.; Joe Johnson, E, Soph.; Marty Lowe, OB, Soph.; Terry Quinn, S, Soph.; Anthony Shelman, RB, Soph.

Top newcomers: Xzavia Atkins, OL, Sr. (transfer/ Long Beach State); Aaron Bailey, RB, Jr. (JC); Anthony Bridges, DB, Fr. (RS); Kwalee Cooper, WR, Fr.; Johnny Frost, LB, Fr.; Troy Thomas, RB, Jr. (transfer/Long Beach State); Jermaine Williams, OT, Soph. (transfer/Long Beach State). Sebt. State, Sept. 5; Memphis State, Sept. 12; at Arizona State, Sept. 19; Wyoming, Sept. 26; Syracuse, Oct. 3; Virginia Tech, Oct. 10; Tulsa, Oct. 17; at Florida, Oct. 24; at Cincinnati, Oct. 31; at Texas A&M, Nov. 7; at Pittsburgh, Nov. 14, Hietozme: Cardinals.

Outlook: Instead of discussing a collision course with the national championship, the Cardinals are talking about a .500 season. A seven-game losing streak at the end of last year in which Louisville was outscored by more than 28 points per game made people forget that one year earlier, the Cards ended their 1990 season by trouncing Alabama in the Fiesta Bowl.

Offensive strengths: If healthy, quarterback Jeff Brohm can beat you with his arm or with his legs. Halfback Ralph Dawkins remains Louisville's Mr. Everything, having led the team in rushing and receiving the last two seasons.

Offensive weaknesses: The line doesn't have the strength to blow people off the ball, making some of Brohm's scrambles more of necessity than design. This offense also could use a game-breaker.

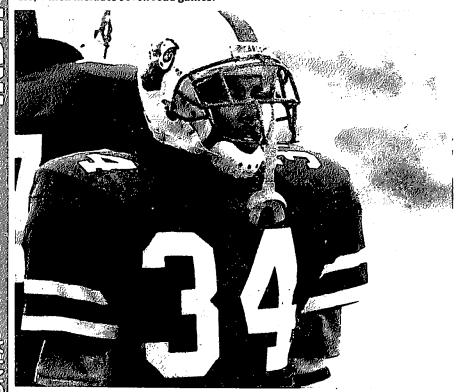
Defensive strengths: Ray Buchanan, Louisville's best defensive back since Frank Minnifield roamed the bluegrass a decade ago, should be even better after adding 25 pounds. There's depth at linebacker and in the secondary.

Defensive weaknesses: Where's the beef? The Cards surrendered nearly 217 rushing yards per game last season, a big reason why opponents converted 44 percent of their third-down plays.

Special teams: Ace place-kicker Klaus Wilmsmeyer is gone, and his successor is anyone's guess. Brandon Brookfield again will handle the punting. Buchanan has blocked three punts and one field goal in his career.

Keys to success: A healthy Brohm and better play on both lines.

Sure sign of trouble: Opposing teams running the ball straight up the middle. Coach Howard Schnellenberger says: "Work, work, work. There's nothing else we can do. We have nobody to switch over (from defense to offense). We've just got to make them better players."



Bigger and better: Ray Buchanan, Louisville's best defensive back since Frank Minnifield roamed the bluegrass a decade ago, should be even better after adding 25 pounds.

MEMPHIS STATE

Cozen: Chuck Stobart (11-21-1, 3 years; 51-69-3 overall, 11 years).

1991 record: 5-5.
Key losses: Kelth Benton, QB; Russell Jones, WR;
James Maclin, OT.

Starter returnisp: Offense (8): Larry Bolton, C, 6-1/255, Sr.; Leon Bosby, FB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Gary Bouldin, TE, 6-5/235, Sr.; John Bush, WR, 6-1/195, Sr.; Jeff King, G, 6-4/262, Jr.; Larry Porter, TB, 5-10/190, Jr.; Joe Stanley, G, 6-4/260, Sr.; Stevie Williams, T, 6-1/276, Jr. Befrase [11]: Danton Barto, LB, 6-0/220, Jr.; Rod Brown, LB, 6-0/229, Jr.; Dominic Calloway, CB, 6-1/185, Jr.; Chris Graham, E, 6-3/231, Sr.; Chris Hobbs, NG, 6-1/

225, Sr.; Pat Jansen, T. 6-2/254, Sr.; Herb Kendall, 223, 31., Pat Saissat, 1, 6-2/234, 31., net o Rendan, 168, 51.; Charles King, T, 6-1/270, Jr.; Chris Michael, S, 6-1/195, Jr.; Jeff Sawyer, E, 6-3/215, Sr.; Jeremy Williams, S, 5-9/177, Jr. Kickers [2]; Joe Allison, K, 6-0/184, Jr.; Jeff Buffalce, 6-0/195, Sr.

Olber key retureses: Bobby Avery, DE, Sr. (RS/disciplinary); Joe Cole, OB, Sr.; Russell Copeland, WR, Jr. (RS/disciplinary); Sam Edwards, S. Sr.; Kevin Jordan, DE, Jr. (RS/disciplinary); Eric Nelson, S, Sr.; Ray Patterson, TB, Jr.; Tony Semple,

Top Newscattri: Isaac Bruce, WR, Jr. (JC); Clifton Davis III, OB, Fr.; John Martin, RB, Jr. (JC); Steve Matthews, QB, Jr. (JC); Charles Walker, QB, Jr. (JC): Darrell Williams, QB, Fr. (RS); Myron Wise,

WR, Jr. (3C).

Schutel: At Southern Mississippi, Sept. 5; at Louisville, Sept. 12; Mississippi, State, Sept. 19; Arkansas, Sept. 26; Cincinnati, Oct. 10; Arkansas,
State, Oct. 17; at Tulsa, Oct. 24; at Tulane, Oct. 31;
at Mississippi, Nov. 7; Tennessee, Nov. 14; East
Carolina, Nov. 21.

Nicksame: Tigers. Site: Memphis, Tenn.

Outlook: With 21 of 24 starters back, including both kickers and his entire defense, Chuck Stobart has a quiet confidence that his team will deliver and reach a bowl game. Besides, time may be running out on him as he enters his fourth year at the helm.

Offensive strengths: The line returns four starters, and it will block for a cast of running backs that range from powerful (Leon Bosby) to shifty (Larry Porter) to speedy (Ray Patterson).

Offensive weaknesses: The absence of an experienced quarterback is the only thing that's making Stobart sweat. Senior Joe Cole hasn't been used much, and redshirt freshman Darrell Williams hasn't seen a snap of playing time. The dark horse in the race is former Tennessee quarterback Steve Matthews. Whoever gets the job will operate an offense infused with more drop-back

Defensive strengths: New defensive coordinator Tim Rose, the former Miami of Ohio head coach, has oodles of talent to coach. Linebacker Danton Barto and noseguard Chris Hobbs simply hammered opponents in '91. The secondary also is strong, featuring tough-tackling cornerbacks Dominic Calloway and

Herb Kendall.

Defensive weaknesses: Rose will likely gamble less than previous defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn, who would blitz cheerleaders if he had the chance.

Special teams: Teams forcing Memphis State to punt play into the Tigers' hands ... or rather punter Jeff Buffaloe's foot. Buffaloe ranked 15th in Division I-A last season, averaging 42.1 yards per boot. Place-kicker Joe Allison is solid on extra points and erratic on field goals.

Keys to success: The Tigers must develop depth (primarily from junior college transfers) along the offensive line. Also, Memphis State needs at least a split of its first two games, both of

which are on the road. Sure sign of trouble: If the quarterback battle rages through midseason with Stobart trying to find a consistent passer.



Strong unit: Cincinnati's defensive line. anchored by tackle Ronnie Dixon, is deep and talented.

Coach Chuck Stobart says: "This is our best chance to be really successful since I've been here. We have more veteran players than ever. We've got some talented guys who can make big plays. And we're a lot tougher team physically than we've ever been."

CINCINNATI

Coach: Tim Murphy (6-26-1, 3 years; 21-34-1 overall, 5 years). 1991 record: 4-7.

1991 record: 4-7.

Key Tosses: John Arena, OG; Vaughn Booker, DT;
Chris Carmon, CG; Rich Johnson, OT; David Rowe,
K; Ronnie Shannon, DB; Kelly Sims, DB.
Starters rateraling: Offense (8): Kris Bjorson, TE, 62/229, Sr.; Mike Britford, FB, 5-6/195, Jr.; Damon
Bryant, FL, 5-8/161, Jr.; Jamie Crysdale, C, 6-4/
281, Sr.; Lance Harp, OB, 6-5/220, Jr.; Kevin
Mitchell, G, 6-3/299, Soph.; Marton Pearce, SE, 68/162, Jr.; David Small, TB, 5-9/179, Jr., Britisse
(8): Jocelyn Borgella, CB, 5-10/179, Jr.; Scott
Brown, LB, 6-0/240, Sr.; Jason Coppess; LB, 6-2/
236, Jr.; Michael Davis, S, 6-2/191, Jr.; Nate Din-236, Jr.; Michael Davis, S. 6-2/191; Jr.; Nate Din-gle, LB, 6-3/254, Jr.; Ronnie Dixon, T. 6-3/292, Sr.; Bob Duckens, NG, 6-2/261, Jr.; Reginald Hud-son, LB, 6-1/203, Soph. Kigkers (1): Jeff Blaylock, . 6-1/204, Soph.

Other key returness: Ernest Allen, NG, Soph.; Paul Anderson, OB, Jr.; Chuck Fitzgerald, FB, Sr.; Brian Jenkins, FL, Jr.; Patrick John, LB, Jr.; Latish Kin-sler, S, Jr.; Dave Patania, SE, Sr.; Gary Reld, DT,

Top cowcomers: Dorlan Adams, DT, Fr. (RS); Paul Blackwood, TB, Jr. (JO): Jonathan Boone, LB, Jr. (JC); Jelani Brandon, DB, Fr.; Reggle Grant, DB, Soph. (Prop 48); Craedel Kimbrough, TB, Fr. (RS); Jamie Lemire, OG, Fr. (RS); Pat Oakes, OT, Fr. (RS); Thomas Sampson, CB, Fr. (RS); Soan Stewart, FL, Fr. (RS); Eric Vibberts, QB, Soph. (JC); Brian Whitlow, K, Jr. (JC); Todd Williams, TE, Jr.

Schools: Penn State, Sept. 5; at Miami of Ohio, Sept. 19; at Tennessee, Sept. 26; Kent, Oct. 3; at Memphis State, Oct. 10; at East Carolina, Oct. 17; at Southern Mississippi, Oct. 24; Louisville, Oct. 31; Rutgers, Nov. 7; Kentucky, Nov. 14; Akron, Nov. 21

Mickeame: Bearcats. Site: Cincinnati.

Outlook: Cincinnati posted its best record since 1987, winning four of its last seven games and nearly upsetting East Carolina in its last contest of the season. Coach Tim Murphy received a two-year contract extension and may be on the verge of producing the school's first winning season since 1982. Offensive strengths: Junior quarterbacks Lance Harp and Paul Anderson give Murphy the equivalent of two starters. Slashing tailback David Small rushed for 1,004 yards in his rookie season last year.

Offensive weaknesses: Only two starters return from a line that propelled Cincinnati to 2,136 yards rushing, its best total since 1978. The Bearcats lack

a proven fullback.

Defensive strengths: The line, anchored by tackle Ronnie Dixon, is deep and talented. Murphy believes the Bearcats can overcome the loss of tackle Vaughn Booker, the Bearcats' best pass rusher, who left the team to play in the Canadian Football League.

Defensive weaknesses: With the loss of four-year starters Kelly Sims and Ronnie Shannon, Murphy must augment

the secondary.

Special teams: Jeff Blaylock struggled last year as a freshman, averaging 34.2 yards per punt. Place-kicker Brian Whitlow, a junior college transfer, is expected to give Cincinnati better field position on kickoffs. His junior college teammate, snapper Todd Williams, is being counted on to help the Bearcats avoid some of the embarrassments they suffered on special teams last

Key to success: If the offensive line jells early, the Bearcats will score a lot of points.

Sure sign of trouble: If the secondary doesn't find replacements for Sims and Shannon, the Bearcats could be vulner-

able to the big play.

Coach Tim Murphy says: "They sense (that they can have a winning season). and that's not bad. It's a much worse situation for a developing team to lack confidence than to have a whole lot of it. Whether it's deserved remains to be seen, but they certainly have a whole lot of it."

NORTH. ILLINOIS

Coach: Charilo Sadier (2-9, 1 year). 1991 record: 2-9.

1991 record: 2-9.

Key losses: Adam Dach, FB; Steve Henriksen, LB; Dave Jensen, P; Willy Roy, K; Scott Van Bellinger, DE; Mike Westrick, C; Eric White, NG.

Starters returning: Offense [9]: Brad Capes, T, 6-4/273, Sr.; Matt. Glarkson; G, 6-3/251, Jr.; T.C., Dantzier, TB, 5-10/175, Sr.; Dagan Lutjen, G, 6-4/268, Sr.; Stacey McKinney, OB (will move to WR), 5-11/176, Sr.; Tim O'Brien; T, 8-4/260, Jr.; William Patrick, FL, 5-8/164, Sr.; Raymond Roberts, TE, 6-3/245, Jr.; Larry Wynn, WR, 6-0/180, Sr. Detesse [8]: Bruce Cotten, LB (will move to FB), 5-11/220, Jr.; MacArthur Griffin, CB, 5-10/181; Soph.; Eric Lacy, CB; 5-11/170, Jr.; Gerald Nickelberry, LB, 6-0/221, Soph.; Tom Rhomberg, S, 6-3/207, Sr.; Jeft Taylor, S, 6-2/190, Sr.; Rob Wagner, DE, 6-4/262, Sr.; Steve Wild, LB, 6-2/209, Jr. DE, 6-4/252, Sr.; Steve Wild, LB, 6-2/209, Jr.

Continued

Kickers: None. Olbrr bay ritarases: Mike Duchane, LB, Soph.; Rich Favor, CB, Sr.; Dan Fox, LB, Soph.; Corey Frazier, S, Jr.; Mike Jordan, DE, Sr.; Vaurice Patterson, SE, Soph.; Drew Riley, OB, Jr.; Steve Rodgers, RB, Jr.;

Rob Rugai, QB, Sr

Rob Rugal, OB, Sr.

Top asweemars: Jerry Bartol, TE, Fr. (RS); Otha
Brooks, SE, Fr. (RS); Terry Bruce, C, Fr. (RS);
Scott Carlson, LB, Fr. (RS); Scott Crabtree; OB, Jr.
(JC); James Eggink, LB, Fr.; Jeff Flight, LB, Jr.
(JC); Steve Hall, OG, Fr. (RS); LeShon-Johnson,
TB, Jr. (JC/RS); Scott McLean, LB, Jr. (JC); Joe
Patterson, C, Jr. (JC); Rob Pink, OG, Fr.; Ron,
Reichert, OB, Fr. (RS); Derek Sholdice, OT, Fr.
(RS); Brian Steger, K, Jr. (transfer/UCLA); Blane
Tetreault, LB, Fr. (RS); Ty Van Harpen, DE, Fr.
(RS).

RS).

Rt Arkansas State, Sept. 6: Illinois State, Sept. 12: at Arkansas State, Sept. 19: at Wisconsin, Sept. 26: Middle Tennessee State, Oct. 3: Southern Mississippi, Oct. 10: Liberty, Oct. 24: at Western Michigan, Oct. 31: at Southwestern Louistana, Nov. 7: at Army, Nov. 14: Teledo, Nov. 21.

Site: DeKalb, III.

Outlook: Everything that could have gone wrong for Charlie Sadler in his first year at Northern Illinois did. He was forced to play seven true freshmen and 11 first-year players against the likes of Iowa, Florida and Fresno State after injuries and academic problems ravaged his team. The fact that spring practice went smoothly is a huge step in the right direction.

Offensive strengths: If Scott Crabtree, who led Northeastern Oklahoma A&M to the national junior college title last fall, or senior Rob Rugai can work some magic at quarterback, the Huskies' offense might be worth watching. The receiving corps could be lethal. Junior running back LeShon Johnson, who was redshirted last season, is a breakaway threat.

Offensive weaknesses: The line was the focal point of the Huskies' 1991 woes, and it's under the microscope again.

Defensive strengths: Sophomore linebacker Gerald Nickelberry is a keeper. An experienced secondary figures to improve if the line can put some pressure on opposing quarterbacks.

Defensive weaknesses: Like its offensive counterpart, the defensive line is suspect. Northern Illinois allowed a whopping 453.5 yards and 33.1 points per

game last year.

Special teams: Place-kicker Brian Steger, a transfer from UCLA, has plenty of leg. Being a barefoot kicker, however, he'll need the Midwest temperatures to cooperate. The punting job is

Key to success: Keeping trainer Mike Braid as lonely as a Maytag repairman. Last season, the Huskies used 10 players at tailback alone.

Sure signs of trouble: More injuries and another weak offensive line. The Huskies, who will join the Big West Conference in 1993, ranked 101st out of 106 Division I-A teams in yards gained per game (271.3) and 99th in scoring (13point average) in 1991. Arf.

Coach Charlie Sadler says: "You want to know how bad it was last year? In a multiple-I offense, our I-back didn't score a touchdown after the Kansas State game (third of the season)."

10/TULANE

Coach: Buddy Tesvens (first year, 39-31-2

Coach: Buddy Teavens (first year; 39-31-2 overall, 7 years).
1991 resort: 1-10.
Key Lesses: Sam Atkins, OT; Ray Benford; LB; Rennle Clament; DT; Charles Herrman, C; Kevin Jantschek, DT; Jerome Woods, OB.
Starlers referring: Offesse (9); Steve Ballard, WR, 5-9/478, Sr; Erik Bruce, T, 8-3/248, Soph; Brant Byrd; T, 6-3/255, Jr; Harold Dennis, RB, 5-11/204, Sr; Billy Duncan, OB, 8-0/494, Jr; Beau Harvey, TE, 6-2/238, Jr; Chance Miller, FB, 5-9/195, Sr; Mitch Tinsley, C, 8-2/260, Jr; Wilbert Ursin, WR, 6-1/274, Jr; Chance Miller, FB, 5-9/195, Sr; Mitch Tinsley, C, 8-2/260, Jr; Wilbert Ursin, WR, 6-1/274, Jr; Chance Miller, FB, 5-9/195, Sr; Mitch Tinsley, C, 8-2/260, Jr; Wilbert Ursin, WR, 6-1/203, Jr; Rocaemic status for '92 In doubt) Briesse (9); Michael Batiste, E, 6-3/277, Jr; Jeff Deán, LB, 6-1/201, Soph; Ruffin Hamilton, LB, 6-1/203, Jr; Rochell C, Sary Butler, K, 5-6/148, Sr; Chip, Clark, P, 5-10/181, Jr; Chip, Clark, P, 5-10/181, Jr; Chip, Carron, Renders, WRD, Sander, Redding, OS, Jr; Carron, Renders, Redding, CB, Jr; Carron, Renders, WRD, Sander, Redding, OS, Jr; Carron, Renders, Redding, CB, Jr; Robert, Redding, CB, Jr; Carron, Renders, Redding, CB, Jr; Carr

Other by retrees: Andy Abramowicz, C., Jr.; Robert Bodine, OG., Jr.; Corey Broadnax, WR, Soph.; Richard Cesario, OT, Jr.; Reggle Davis, NG (moved from OG); Jr.; Michael Dove, OT, Jr.; Brad Ducre, FB, Soph.; Eric Fillmore, OT, Sr.; Wilbert Gilmore, S. Jr.: Brandon Hamilton, CB, Jr.; Travis Lacassin, NG, Soph.; Reggie Mack, DT, Sr.; Mark Martinez, LB, Sr.; Marc Milano, DE, Soph.; Joey Perry, TB, Soph.; Scott Sanchez, TE, Soph.; Michael Smartt, LB, Soph.; Terrance Strickland, RB, Sr. (missed '91/Injury); Keine Turner, WR, Soph.; Jerry Ursin, WR, Sr. (missed '91/academics).

vvi, st. (misses 91/acaemics).

Tep asweomers: Cedric Anderson, CB, Fr. (RS):
Brad Highlight, LB, Fr. (RS); Shawn Meadows, QB,
Jr. (JC); Gary Quick, P. Fr. (RS); Wesley Salmon,
OB, Fr. (RS); Steve Schuler, OT, Fr. (RS);
Schedile: At Southern Methodist, Sept. 5; at Mississippi, Sept. 12; at lowa State, Sept. 19; Nevada,
Sept. 26; Alabama; Oct. 10; Southern Mississippi,
Oct. 15; Reston Cellago Cet. 24; Manufacture.

Oct. 15; Boston College, Oct. 24; Memphis State, Oct. 31; at Navy, Nov. 7; at Florida State, Nov. 14; at Louislana State, Nov. 21.

Mittenut Green Wave

Site: New Orleans.

Outlook: Buddy Teevens is attempting to become the first coach to make a successful transition from the Ivy League to Division I-A since Fritz Crisler left Princeton for Michigan in 1938. Unfortunately, the former Dartmouth coach inherited about as much talent as most Ivy League teams have. Offensive strengths: Quarterback Billy Duncan threw for 1,065 yards last season before losing the starting job at midseason. With his replacement, Jerome Woods, now gone, the job belongs to Duncan. Wilbert Ursin is a topnotch receiver (70 catches for 969 yards and nine TDs in '91), but he must regain the academic eligibility he lost last spring.

Offensive weaknesses: The line is small and slow, not a good combination for a team that wants to employ a ballcontrol offense. At least two freshmen will have to start on the line sometime this year.

Defensive strengths: The secondary, led by safety Mark Thornhill, returns intact. After playing a 4-3 alignment in 1991, the Green Wave is back in a 3-4. Darren McGowan, an end last year, appears to have made a successful switch to outside linebacker.

Defensive weaknesses: The Tulane defense was one of the worst in the country last year in average yards allowed (441) and total points (384). The front three of Michael Batiste, Reggie Davis and Reggie Mack averages nearly 300 pounds, but they pay the price in speed and mobility.

Special teams: Gary Butler, whose longest field goal last year was a mere 37 yards, will be pressed by newcomer Gary Quick. Punter Chip Clark is adequate.

Key to success: The defense must play well enough to compensate for what figures to be a limited offense.

Sure sign of trouble: If any freshmen are starting on the offensive line in the season opener at Southern Methodist. Coach Buddy Teevens says: "It's important that we play with emotion. With it, we have a chance for success."

/SW LOUISIANA

Couch: Nelson Stokley (32-33-1; 6 years). 1991 record: 2-8-1.

Key Cosses: Louis Age, OT; Charlie Forman; WR; Marshall Frank, LB; Peter Hypolite, S; Adam John-son, OT; Terrance Matthews, NB; Roderick Tripp, OB; Troy Wingerter, C;

OS; Troy Wingerter, C.
Starters: returning: Offense [7]: Wayde Butler, WR.
6-0/180, Sr.; Reginald Francois, FB, 6-0/208, Sr.;
Reggle Hayes, OB, 5-8/173, Soph.; Tyluan Hayes,
OB, 5-10/180, Jr.; Steve Mocek, TB, 5-10/195,
Soph.; Buck Moncia, TE, 6-2/259, Jr.; Brett
Yarbro, G, 6-4/258, Soph. Dufunse [9]: James Atkins, T, 6-6/299, Sr.; Mare LeBlanc, LB, 6-3/208,
Jr.; Harold Nash, CB, 5-8/180, Sr.; Charles Pool,
LB, 5-11/209, Jr.; Cralg Roberts, CB, 5-9/183, Jr.;
John Robinson, T, 6-5/284, Jr.; Terrance Ross,
LB, 6-0/246, Sr.; William Sims, LB, 6-3/253, Sr.,
Orlanda Thomas, S, 6-2/201, Soph.; Kieters [2]:
Randy Baggett, P, 5-11/182, Sr.; Richis Cunningham, K, 5-10/165/Sr.

Other key returness: Isaac Benefield, TB, Soph.; Donald Collins, CB, Sr. (RS/medical); Matt Cruse, 06, Jr.; Damon Denaburg, TB; Sr.; Jonas Francols, LB, Jr. (RS/medical); James Freeman, QB, Sr.; Hunter Golden, LB (switched from TE), Jr.; Linc Harden, S., Soph.; Greg Laxey, TB, Jr.; Conrad Lewis, NG, Jr.; Fernando Thomas, CB, Soph.; Robby Waguespack, C, Jr.; Elton Ward, LB, Soph.; Torl Williams, WR (switched from QB), Soph.; John Wolle, CB, Sr

comurs: Patrice Alexander, LB, Soph. (Prop Top Busecours: Patrice Alexander, LB, Soph. (Prop. 48); Chris Besetsnzy, DL, Jr. (JC); Brad Blackman, C, Jr. (JC); Brad Jeffs, OG, Jr. (JC); Harry Lemming, OG, Jr. (JC); Ryan McGrath, TE, Jr. (JC); Jeff Mitchell, LB, Soph. (Prop. 48); Don Paul, OL, Jr. (JC); Gilberto Plasencia, OT, Jr. (JC); Chad Reeves; FB, Fr. (RS/medical); Sherard Thibodeaux, DT, Soph. (Prop. 48); Robert Wolfe, FB, Soph. (Prop. 48); Terrance Woods, TB, Soph. (Prop. 48);

(Prop 48); Schidule: At Tennessee, Sept. 5; Northeast Louisi-ana; Sept. 12; at San Jose State, Sept. 19; Western Kentucky, Sept. 26; at Houston, Oct. 3; at Louisi-ana Tech. Oct. 10; Cal State Fulleron, Oct. 17; at Auburn, Oct. 24; at Tulsa, Oct. 31; Northern IIlinois, Nov. 7; Arkansas State, Nov. 21. Richage: Ragin' Cajuns.

Sile::Lafayette, La.

Outlook: Psychological scars remain from a disastrous season, the second straight losing campaign for Southwestern Louisiana. Coach Nelson Stokley hopes the addition of three new offensive assistants will help jump-start an attack that averaged only 13 points per game in 1991. A strong '92 campaign would help the Ragin' Cajuns build momentum toward '93, when they begin play in the Big West Conference.

Offensive strengths: Wayde Butler, the school's all-time leader in receptions, returns to provide the Cajuns with a long-distance threat. Steve Mocek, Greg Laxey and Isaac Benefield provide good depth at tailback.

Offensive weaknesses: Uncertainty at

quarterback remains an unsettling element, as Tyjuan Hayes, Reggie Hayes and James Freeman battle for the job. Butler is the only receiving threat.

Defensive strengths: Southwestern Louisiana will feature an experienced front seven and talented secondary. Tackle James Atkins and outside linebacker William Sims are all-star candidates with pro potential. Stokley rates safety Orlanda Thomas among the nation's best, while cornerbacks Harold Nash, Craig Roberts and Donald Collins are solid.

Defensive weaknesses: The Cajuns lack depth, especially on the line. That weak link should be exposed during visits to Tennessee, Houston and Auburn.

Special teams: Place-kicker Richie Cunningham and punter Randy Baggett both lack consistency, while more explosion is needed in the return game from Laxey, Butler and Roberts.

Keys to success: Quickly integrating new faces from the junior college ranks into the offensive line and developing a passing game.

Sure sign of trouble: If the Cajuns can't avoid the ill-timed turnovers that plagued them a year ago, their attack will sputter and they'll lose any confidence they had gained during spring practice.

Coach Nelson Stokley says: "Coming out of the spring with three new coaches, I felt good about the job they did. They communicated well, and the players feel comfortable with them. I think we're all on the same page heading into the fall."

12/NAVY

Ceach: George Chaump (6-16, 2 years; 63-8-2 overall, 10 years).

48-2 overall, 10 years). 1991 meerd: 1-10.

Key lesse: Chris Alexander, DT; Chris Cordero, DB; Michael Davis, OG; Mark Fills, LB; Tom Frosch, P; B.J. Mason, WR; Byron Oyden, LB; Rodney Purlloy, DB; Brad Stramanak, FB, 5-11/223, Jr. (out for season/knee); Carl Voss; OG.

Starters returning: Offesse [7]: Kevin: Hickman, TE. 6-4/247, Soph.; Jim Kublak, OB, 6-2/200, Soph.; Max Lane, T. 6-7/286, Jr.; Stave Palmer, C, 6-1/265, Sr.; Tom Pritchard; WR, 6-0/187, Soph.; Blair Sokel, T, 6-7/285, Jr.; Jason Van Matre, TB, 6-10/187, Jr. Defesse; [8]: Chad Chattos, OB, 5-11/191, Sr.; Robert Goodson, E, 6-1/250, Sr.; Chris Hart, OB, 5-8/187, Soph.; Bob Kuberski; T, 6-5/270, Sr.; David Shaw, LB, 6-0/227, Jr.; Ches Snider, T, 6-2/245, Sr.; Klekers [1]: Tim Rogers, K, 5-11/173, Soph.

Other key returnes: Grover Favors, DB; Soph.; Steve Himelspach, LB; Sr.; Duke Ingraham; FB; Sr.; Javier Zuluaga; LB; Jr.

Top newcomers: None.
Scheldle: Virginia; Sept. 12; at Boston College,
Sept. 19; Rutgers; Sept. 26; at North Carolina; Oct.
3; at Air Force, Oct. 10; Delaware, Oct. 24; Notre
Dame (at East Rutherford, N.J.), Oct. 31; Tulane,
Nov. 7; Vanderbilt; Nov. 14; at Rice, Nov. 21; Army
(at Philadelphia), Dec. 5.
Kickarae: Midshipmen.

Site: Annapolis, Md.

Outlook: It's the old good-news, badnews situation for Navy in 1992. Thirteen starters return, but they played major roles in the Midshipmen's 1-10 record last season. The Middies will throw a little more often this year and

figure to play a little better on defense,



Reason to salute: Navy defensive tackle Bob Kuberski is one of the best in the East.

thanks to new defensive coordinator Greg McMackin.

Offensive strengths: Sophomore Jim Kubiak gives Coach George Chaump his first real passing quarterback at Navy. Kubiak struggled some last year (11 interceptions while making only five starts), but he has promise. Five of the team's top six receivers are back, and Navy should have a solid running game.

Offensive weaknesses: The line was hit hard by graduation and will rely on several underclassmen for major contributions.

Defensive strengths: Tackle Bob Kuberski is one of the best in the East and is joined by veteran linemen Robert Goodson and Ches Snider.

Defensive weaknesses: Navy's defensive backfield is s-s-l-l-o-o-w-w. The linebacking corps returns four letter-winners, but those players were shaky last year.

Key to success: Navy must stop some people. Five opponents scored 30-plus points against the Middles in '91 and another notched 29.

Sure sign of trouble: If the slow Navy secondary spends too many afternoons chasing enemy receivers. The Middles don't have the ammunition to win too many shootouts.

Coach George Chaump says: "We took our lumps last year, but we were competitive. We have a lot of people back, and we're going to have to coach like crazy, get them to work hard and hope for the best. I like the spirit of this team."

13/SOUTHERN MISS

Cozek: Jeff Bower (4-8, 2 years). 1991 record: 4-7. Av. Josses: Pete Antonion. DT: Ron E

Key tosses: Pete Antoniou, DT; Ron Baham, WR; Lehman Braley, OG; Raymond Hollins, DB; Derrick Hoskins, S; Roland Johnson, FB; Chris LaCoste, C; Chafan Marsh, OG; Thad McDowell, LB; Tim Miller, NG; Rod Reed, LB; Tim Roberts, DT; Reggie Russell, OT; Chris Ryals, OT; Tony Smith; TB; Jim Taylor, R; Arnio Williams, LB; Brian Wood; OB; Pat Wynn, DB.

Starters reterning: Offesse (3): Marcus Rope, TE, 8-3/250, Sr.; Greg Reed, WR, 6-2/189, Sr.; Tommy Waters, DB, 6-1/210, Soph, Oefesse (1); James Singleton, LB, 6-3/215, Sr. Ktekers (1): Lance Nations; K, 5-8/170, Sr.

Other Key returness: Donell Brannon, OT. (switched from DL.), Sr. (RS); Reggle Elder, DT. Jr. (RS); Eric Estes, P. Soph.; Bobby Hamilton, DE. Jr.; Mark-Montgomery, WR. Soph.; Michael Tobias, DT., Soph.; Michael Welch, TB, Sr.

Top newconsers: Joel Baylor, DT, Soph. (Prop. 48); Todd Baeching, OT, Jr. (transfer/Delta State, Miss.); Aaron Hightower, OB, Fr.; Johnny Lomoro; K, Fr.; Roy Stabler, S, Fr.

Schadeler Memphis State, Sept. 5; at Alabama, Sept. 12; Louisiana Tech, Sept. 18; at Auburn, Sept. 26; Tulsa, Oct. 3; at Northern Illipois, Oct. 10; at Tulane, Oct. 15; Cincinnati, Oct. 24; at East Carolina, Oct. 29; at Florida, Nov. 7; at Virginia Tech; Nov. 14.

Hickname: Golden Eagles. Site: Hättlesburg, Miss.

Outlook: Coach Jeff Bower hopes to attain with youth and attitude what the Golden Eagles could not achieve in 1991 with a team stocked with 31 seniors: a winning record. However, the combination of inexperience and a typically tough schedule that includes seven road games will make topping last year's 4-7 mark a daunting task.

Offensive strengths: Bower, recognized as a skilled offensive technician, has assumed the coordinator's reins. That should help quarterback Tommy Waters, who set the school's freshman passing record in 1991. Designated scorer Michael Welch, who rushed for nine touchdowns in '91, leads the ground attack.

Offensive weaknesses: It's doubtfut Southern Miss will be able to use much of its playbook, given Waters' physical limitations (lack of height, speed and

Continued

arm strength). Also, Waters has no game-breaking back like Tony Smith to hand the ball off to.

Defensive strengths: Bower shuffled his coaching staff, adding four new defensive coaches in hopes of revitalizing a unit that too often fell apart in the fourth quarter. The Golden Eagles will switch to a rambunctious, multi-look 4-3 defense that new coordinator John Thompson brought with him from Louisiana Tech. Linebacker James Singleton will be one of the anchors of a deep and talented front seven.

Defensive weaknesses: The young talent must jell quickly, particularly at linebacker and defensive back, where seven starters were lost.

Special teams: Place-kicker Lance Nations returns, but expect true freshman Johnny Lomoro to win the position this fall. Former quarterback Eric Estes, a left-footer who didn't play football last year after suffering a serious concussion, will get first crack at punting.

Key to success: Finding a running attack to take the heat off Waters.

Sure sign of trouble: If the defense falters and Southern Miss is forced into catch-up situations, the Golden Eagles are in for a long year.

Coach Jeff Bower says: "I feel better about some positions than others. I think we'll have a good two-deep secondary, and our defensive front looks to be in pretty good shape. Our offensive line is very, very young, and we're thin at wideout and running back. But we've got some kids that can do some things, and they're working hard there."

14/ARMY

Ceach: Bob Sutton (4-7, 1 year).

1591 record: 4-7. Hara Tecura; 4-7.

Key Isses: Steve Chalouit, OG; Lance Chambers, DT; Mark Dawkins, TE; Chuck Gibbs, DB; Jason Giles, OT; Trey Gilmore, LB; Dan Menendez, OT; Edrian Oliver, HB; Aaron Scott, C; Arlen Smith, HB; Callian Thomas, FB; Monte Tomasino, SE; Kevin Walker, NG; Myreon Williams, QB.

waiter, Ntj. myreon Williams, QB. Starters reterring: Ifferse (2): Mark Escobedo, T, 6-1/270, Jr.; Jehn Pirog, B, 6-6/285, Sr. Bithase [7]: Kevin Czarnecki, LB, 6-2/235, Jr.; Dan Davis, T, 6-4/255, Sr.; Aaron Foglesong, LB, 6-3/215, Jr.; Duncan Johnson, CB, 6-1/180, Sr.; Mike McEirath, S, 5-11/185, Sr.; Jason Miller, LB, 6-1/205, Jr.; Kyle Peavler, S, 5-11/210, Jr. Kleters [2]: Todd Hawkins, P, 6-3/200, Jr.; Patmon Malcom, K, 6-0/170-Sr

Other key returness: Paul Andrzejewski, SE, Jr. James Chun, DB, Soph.; Tony Clma, LB, Jr.; Matt-Conway, CG, Jr.; Bill Currence, TE, Sr.; Chad Davis; HB. Jr.; Gary Graves; NG, Jr.; Devin Hartfield; OB, Jr.; Tyson Lee, HB, Jr. (RS/knee); Mike Makovec, OB, Soph. (RS/knee); Will Manning, DB, Sr.; Kevin Muir, C, Jr.; Todd Turner, DB, Jr. (RS/knee); Kevin Vaughn, DB, Soph.; Steve Weber, FB, Jr.; Pat Zelley, LB, Jr.

ley, Le, Jr.
Top asweemers: None.
Schofels: Holy Cross, Sept. 12: at North Carolina,
Sept. 19: The Citadel, Sept. 26: Latayette, Oct. 10;
Rutgers (at East Rutherford, N.J.), Oct. 17: Eastern Michigan, Oct. 31; Air Force, Nov. 7; Northern
Illinois, Nov. 14: Boston College, Nov. 21; Navy (at Philadelphia), Dec. 5.

Site: West Point, N.Y.

Outlook: If the Cadets were worried about a poor offensive showing in last year's 24-3 loss to Navy, they should be overwrought this year. Army must replace an entire backfield and most of its offensive line. It's fortunate that second-year Coach Bob Sutton feels confident about his defense, since it probably will be on the field much of the sea-

Offensive strengths: That's a tough one. Tackle Mark Escobedo and guard John Pirog are the lone holdovers.

Offensive weaknesses: Halfback Chad Davis, the lone returning threat among Army's 1991 rushers, gained only 210 yards last season. Of the fullbacks who will be back in 1992, none toted the ball more than four times last year. The top two quarterback candidates are coming off serious knee injuries, and senior kicker Patmon Malcom will try to rebound from a poor year.

Defensive strengths: Senior free safety Mike McEirath (117 tackles in '91) leads a deep secondary. Junior linebackers Kevin Czarnecki, Aaron Foglesong and Jason Miller all started last season and should be better this time around.

Defensive weaknesses: Not many. Last year, Army had to commit to youth; as a result, the Cadets now have considerable experience. The three-man defensive front could use a little help, though, since Dan Davis is the only returning starter there.

Key to success: A simple one: Army needs its new backfield to mesh quickly. That's not easy with a wishbone at-

Sure sign of trouble: One-two-three. punt. One-two-three, punt. One-twothree, fumble.

Coach Bob Sutton says: "Replacing all our skill people is a major challenge to the team. If the backfield gets put together, we have the makings of a pretty good football team."

15/ARKANSAS STATE

Coatt: Ray Perkins (first year; 32-15-1 overall, 4 years). 1991 record: 1-10

Key lesses: Ken Caffey, DT; Britt Eads, OT; William Graham, DE: Larry Harris, FB; Roy Johnson, QB; Terry Mohajir, S; Steve Smith, OG; Derrick Toney, S, Phillip Wells, CB.

S. Philip Weis, CB.
Starters returalsg: Offense [7]: Kendricke Bullard,
Starters returalsg: Offense [7]: Kendricke Bullard,
SE, 6-1/170, Jr.; Stacy Crockett, HB, 5-9/175, Jr.;
Brad Davis, HB, 5-10/175, Soph.; Blake Denison,
FL, 5-7/160, Jr.; Lee Hunt, B, 6-2/260, Sr.; Richard Smith, T, 6-3/260, Sr.; Eric Tate, C, 6-2/260,
Sr.; Britiste [6]: Michael Beason, LB, 5-11/220, Jr.;
Britiste [6]: Michael Beason, Britiste [6]: Michael Beason Roy Collier, CB, 5-10/175, Sr.; Kenny Ingram, E. 6-3/255, Sr.; Marcus Lawson, LB, 5-11/235, Jr.; Lorenzo Parker, T. 6-0/290, Soph.; Eishon Richmond, S. 6-0/200, Sr. Kleburs (2): Cord Dockery, P. 6-5/200, Jr.; Ryan Jose, K. 5-10/175, Sr. Olber key returness: Brian Allen, DE, Jr.; Cedric

Buckley, LB, Sr.; Curlls Fitch, CB, Soph.; Jimbo Griffin, TE, Sr.; Marcel Jefferson, S, Jr.; Chester Jordan, DT, Sr.; Mike McDonald, NG, Jr.; Aubrey Miller, LB, Sr.; Tom Sears, QB, Jr.; Jerrold Sey-

Miller, LB, Sr.; Tom Sears, UB, Jr.; Jerroid Sey-more, FB; Soph; Kenny Simmons, CB, Sr. Top hewsemers: Matt Boxdorfer, S, Fr. (RS); Corey Grant DT, Jr. (JC); Marshall Halgler, OB, Jr. (JC); Jeff Parkman, OT, Jr. (JC). Sehrdele: At Toledo, Sept. 5; at Oklahoma, Sept. 12; Northern Illinois, Sept. 19; Southern Illinois, Sept. 26; Northwestern State, Oct. 3; Troy (Ala.) State, Oct. 10; ah Memohis State, Oct. 17; at Mississippi Oct. 10; at Memphis State, Oct. 17; at Mississippi State, Oct. 24; at Louislana Tech, Oct. 31; at East Carolina, Nov. 14; at Southwestern Louislana, Nov.

Hickness Indians Site: Jonesboro, Ark.

Outlook: Arkansas State fans are thrilled to have former Alabama and NFL coach Ray Perkins leading the Indians from Division I-AA to I-A. But instead of being concerned with how many games Perkins will win in '92, they are more worried about how long he'll stay in Jonesboro. Perkins' guidance would be beneficial in 1993, when Arkansas State begins play in the Big West Conference.

Offensive strengths: The Indians boast several hard-running fullbacks, a solid line and speedy receiver Kendricke Bullard. It may take Bullard a while to learn Perkins' system because he bypassed spring practice to run track.

Offensive weaknesses: One or more incoming freshmen could challenge former walk-on Tom Sears for the job of replacing quarterback Roy Johnson, the school's all-time total offense lead-

Defensive strengths: Hard-hitting Aubrey Miller tops a group of decent linebackers, and there appears to be depth in the secondary.

Defensive weaknesses: The most glaring is the line, where junior college transfer Corey Grant is expected to be the best of the unit when he arrives on campus in the fall.

Special teams: Ryan Jose has a tenuous hold on his place-kicking job. Cord Dockery is an average punter.

Key to success: Adequate quarterback play and significant defensive improvement from last year, when Arkansas State allowed 414.6 yards and 32.8 points per game.

Sure signs of trouble: If Perkins bails out before the season is over, or if there are no early victories-moral or actual-for a team that has won just one of its last 16 games.

Coach Ray Perkins says: "We have a good bunch of guys who I believe will come together at some point in time in the fall and lay it all on the line and gradually get better as the year goes along."

Writers contributing to this preview were Rick Bozich of the Louisville Courier-Journal (Louisville); Mike Bradley, free-lance writer (Army, Navy, Penn State); Bruce Brown of the Lafayette Daily Advertiser (Southwestern Louisiana); Charles Cromwell of the Jonesboro Sun (Arkansas State); O.K. Davis of the Ruston Daily Leader (Louisiana Tech); Tim Doherty of the Hattiesburg American (Southern Mississippi); Mike Grizzard of the Greenville Daily Reflector (East Carolina); Ron Higgins of the Memphis Commercial Appeal (Memphis State); Bill Koch of the Cincinnati Post (Cincinnati); Ted Lewis of the New Orleans Times-Picayune (Tulane); Ken MacLeod of the Tulsa Tribune (Tulsa); Jim Spadafore of the Detroit News (Notre Dame), and Rich Strom of the Chicago Tribune (Northern Illinois).

\ \ \ \ Adollabor. 17 K4 Đ)

Ascending: East Carolina and Tulsa. East Carolina's Pirates may have a new coach, but that doesn't mean they'll be any less exciting. Steve Logan, now head coach, directed the Pirates' potent attack last season as

offensive coordinator and promises a wide-open passing game this year. Sure, quarterback Jeff Blake and standout linebacker Robert Jones are gone, but the Pirates should win seven or eight games and remain the best team in North Carolina. Tulsa won 10 games (including the

Freedom Bowl) in 1991 and has the potential-and the schedule-to come close to that again. Running back Ron Jackson netted 211 yards in the Freedom Bowl and should surpass 1,000 yards by about week eight.

Penn State

Descending: What was Howard Schnellenberger thinking about when he approved Louisville's 1992 schedule? Of course, he had no idea that his team would be staggering out of a 2-9 season, but not even Notre Dame would take on the Cardinals' slate. Ohio State, Syracuse, Florida, Texas A&M and Pittsburgh are the highlights of an agenda that includes few soft touches. Injuries played a big role in keeping the Cards down in '91. The opposition will take care of that this vear.

Nightmare schedule: See above. Louisville opens at Ohio State, finishes with four straight road games and faces opponents with an aggregate 1991 record of 78-46-1. Oh, well, basketball practice can't be that far off.

Dream schedule: Northern Illinois. The Huskies will attempt to bounce back from last year's 2-9 season by playing three Division I-AA teams (IIlinois State, Middle Tennessee State and Liberty) and a team competing at the I-A level for the first year (Arkansas State).

Best matchup of the year: Penn State at Notre Dame on November 14. Besides the usual national championship ramifications, this one offers a couple interesting subplots. Penn State owns two straight victories over the Fighting Irish, including last year's 35-13 drubbing. This also is the last game in this highly entertaining series—at least for the foreseeable futuresince Penn State is joining the Big Ten Conference in 1993 and thereby loses eight schedule spots to league foes.

Worst matchup of the year: Take your pick. Southwestern Louisiana at Tennessee on September 5; Arkansas State at Oklahoma on September 12: or Eastern Michigan at Penn State on September 19. What, were all the high schools busy those weekends?

Shocker of the year: Rutgers over

Penn State on October 3 at the Meadowlands. Rutgers should be cruising along at 3-1-or maybe even 4-0when the Nittany Lions head to the swamps of New Jersey. With Miami (Fla.) transfer Bryan Fortay operat-

ing the offense, and a solid defense in place. Rutgers just might catch Penn State looking ahead a week to Miami.

Bowl bound: Notre Dame and Penn-State are locks. Tulsa and East Carolina should sneak into secondtier bowls.

Biggest shoes to fill: Those of Penn State's Tony Sacca

and East Carolina's Jeff Blake. Sophomore Kerry Collins is the favorite to replace four-year starter Sacca for Coach Joe Paterno. Sure, Sacca and Paterno sparred for much of the last two seasons, but the athletic passer had some big games for the Nittany Lions (see Notre Dame, 1990). All the survivor of the Michael Anderson-Sean McConnell battle in Greenville. N.C., must do is replace the talented Blake, who established 32 East Carolina records. No problem.

Most underrated player: Bob Kuberski, DT, Navy. He may toil in anonymity for the struggling Middles, but Kuberski could start at most schools in the country.

Impact newcomers: Aaron Bailey, RB, Louisville, Jr. (JC); Scott Crabtree, QB, Northern Illinois, Jr. (JC); Le-Shon Johnson, TB, Northern Illinois, Jr. (JC/RS); Derek Standifer, LB, Louisville, Fr.

Coach of the year: Lou Holtz, Notre Dame. South Bend's favorite leprechaun will have his team in the national title race all year long. And though Holtz probably doesn't deserve this award because of the talent present every year at Notre Dame. having to cope with those high expectations should count for something.

Best bets: Notre Dame quarterback Rick Mirer and fullback Jerome Bettis will be featured in every Heisman Trophy article throughout the season. . . . The Army-Navy game won't have

any bowl implications-again. . . . New Tulane Coach Buddy Teevens will find life among the I-A independents much tougher than that with the Ivies.

Odds and ends: Former I-A independent Akron joins the Mid-American Conference this year. . . . Penn State plays its final game in a 92-game series with Pittsburgh, hosting the Panthers on November 21.

-MICHAEL BRADLEY

HONOR ROLL

Rest offessive line: Bost Hasbackers: Notre Dame Notre Dame Bost-hitting defensive linemen: Bost backfield: **Notre Dame** Davon McDonald, Notre Dame Best-kitting jisebacker: Bost backup quarterback: Kevin McDougal, Notre Dame Demetrius DuBose, Notre Dame Best wide receivers: Best defensive backs: Penn State **Notre Dame** Bast clutch receiver: Best-hitting defensive back: O.J. McDuffie, Penn State Ray Buchanan, Louisville. Best defensive line: Best kicking game:

Best kick coverage: **Notre Dame** Best coaching staff: Penn State Best coach: Lou Holtz, Notre Dame Best Heisman candidate: Rick Mirer, QB, Notre Dame Best pro prospect: Jerome Bettis, FB, Notre Dame

RETURNING LEADERS

Notre Dame

Rushing: Jason Davis, Louisiana Tech, 136.1 yds./game (244 att., 1,351 yds., 14 TDs, 5.5 avg.).

Passing efficiency: Rick Mirer, Notre Dame, 149.2 rating pts. (234 att., 132 comp., 2,116

Total offease: Rick Mirer, Notre Dame, 201.8 yds./game (306 yds. rushing, 2,116 yds. passing, 2,422 total yds.). Receiving: Wilbert Ursin, Tulane, 6.4 rec./game

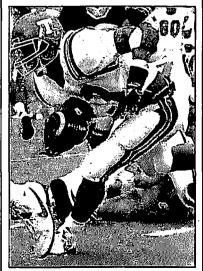
(70 rec., 969 yds., 9 TDs, 13.8 avg.). Secring: Jerome Bettis, Notre Dame, 10 pts./

game (20 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 120 pts.). Punting: Jeff Buffalce, Memphis State, 42.1 avg. (50 punts, 2,103 yds.).

Past returns: Jeff Burris, Notre Dame, 12.6 avg. (18 att., 227 yds., 0 TDs).

Kickeff returns: Larry Wynn, Northern Illinois, 21.9 avg. (15 att., 328 yds., 0 TDs). Field goals: Eric Lange, Tuisa, 1.5 FG/game (16/18 FGs, 89%).

laterespticas: Ray Buchanan, Louisville, 0.73 int/game (8 int., 89 yds., 0 TDs).



Buildog with bite: Jason Davis returns to anchor the Louisiana Tech ground attack.

No stopping the Tigers

Miles, not yards, best measure Pacific's offense

By JEFF HOOD Stockton Record

f the future is anything like the past, the people who keep the statistics at Pacific football games this fall may need to start using miles, not yards, to measure the Tigers' offensive firepower.

Troy Kopp enters his senior season as one of the nation's most prolific quarterbacks. He has thrown for 8,588 yards—or nearly five miles—in his three years as a starter. His 79 career touchdown passes rank as the fifth-highest total in NCAA history. Almost half of Kopp's passing yardage has gone to senior wide receiver Aaron Turner, who led Division I-A in receiving yards per game (145.8) last year.

Pacific's other big weapon is senior running back Ryan Benjamin, who was named first-team All-America by the Associated Press last year after gaining more than 1½ miles (2,895 yards) in all-purpose yardage. He finished sixth in rushing (1,581 yards) to become the first player in NCAA history to rush for more than 1,500 yards and catch at least 50 passes (51) in the same year. Benjamin narrowly missed becoming only the second player (after Oklahoma State's Barry Sanders in 1988) to reach



the 3,000-yard all-purpose level.

Kopp, Benjamin and Turner give Pacific a trio of players who ranked among the national statistical leaders last season. And Kopp and Benjamin are the keys to one of the nation's most powerful offensive backfield units.

Entering last season, the Tigers knew they had a star in Kopp, who had passed for 3,311 yards as a sophomore in 1990. They promoted Kopp as a Heisman Trophy candidate in 1991, but the long-shot campaign crashed after the Tigers got off to a 0-4 start.

"I think last year people maybe didn't think I played as well as my sophomore year," said Kopp, the leader of Pacific's run-and-shoot offense. "I started off slowly. Maybe I didn't throw for 500 yards (in a game), but I was consistent. I may not have had the flashy numbers,

but I played better."

Playing in the Big West Conference, of course, did not enhance Kopp's Heisman hopes. The league is overshadowed by the nearby Pacific-10 and Western Athletic conferences, and fan support is minimal at most schools, including Pacific. And because of the competition, individual achievements are subject to scrutiny.

If any Tiger was a legitimate Heisman candidate in 1991, it was Benjamin. He rushed for at least 100 yards in every game, making him the first player ever to amass 12 100-yard rushing performances in the same season. At 5-foot-8 and 180 pounds, Benjamin isn't overpowering, but his ability to accelerate through holes and change direction makes him a hard player to bring down.

"I'm blessed with that ability," said Benjamin, who transferred to Pacific from College of the Sequoias, a junior college, in 1990. "I'm surprised I don't have toes broken from stopping and going the other way."

"Ryan is a unique back," said Pacific Coach Chuck Shelton, who left another Big West school, Utah State, after last season to take over the Tiger program. "There's no part of the game he can't do extremely well. He can run, catch and block, and he has a knack of turning nothing into something."

For all their impressive offensive numbers, however, the Tigers still aren't winners. Pacific's 5-7 record last year marked its 14th straight losing campaign.

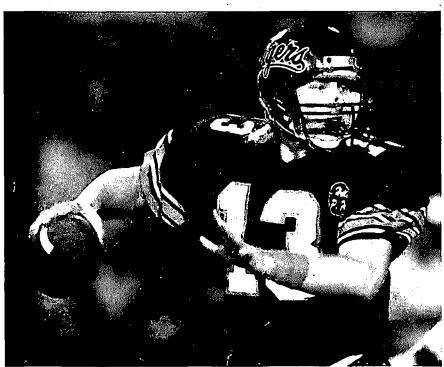
The primary culprit is defense, or lack thereof. Pacific scored 435 points last year—its highest total in more than 40 years—but allowed a school-record 481. The Tigers lost games by scores of 43-40, 86-24, 55-34, 64-47 and 59-14.

"You're doing all these good things (on offense) and losing," Benjamin said. "I'd get 100 yards, Troy gets 300 yards and Aaron gets his 100 yards. It's disappointing. Something wasn't right."

The Tigers' defense was so bad that not even the nation's No. 2-ranked offense (511.3 yards per game) could overcome it.

Kopp's success is all the more noteworthy when one considers his past. While he was still in high school, Kopp's family became homeless after his father lost his job. The family spent one summer camping at a beach park, and after his parents left Mission Viejo, Kopp lived with the families of high school teammates in order to remain in the same school district.

"For him to accomplish what he has,



Mental edge: Pacific's Troy Kopp is a good athlete—the Montreal Expos have drafted him twice as a catching prospect—but what may give him an edge in pro football is his ability to read defenses and make split-second decisions.

he deserves a'tremendous amount of credit," said former Pacific coach Walt Harris, who was the only Division I-A coach to offer Kopp a scholarship after his graduation from high school in 1989.

"No one wanted him," said Harris, now the quarterbacks coach of the New York Jets. "He didn't visit another school, and to come out and be the third-ranked quarterback in total offense (in 1991) and throw 79 touchdown passes, that's mind-boggling. When I got this job (with the Jets), I thanked him. I've got to believe the only reason I'm sitting where I'm sitting now is because people recognize how far Troy's

Kopp, however, is more interested in how far he'll go than in how far he's come. He prefers to put the past behind him and look to the future. His National Football League future, that is.

"Coach Harris told me he thought I had a good chance for the NFL," Kopp said. "I think I definitely have a chance, talent-wise. I think I can pick up things really well. I can learn a system. A lot of quarterbacks may not be able to handle these things, but I think I can."

The 6-2, 216-pound Kopp is a good athlete—the Montreal Expos have drafted him twice as a catching prospect—but what may give him an edge in pro football is his ability to read defenses and make split-second decisions.

"What impresses me most is not just his great arm strength, but he's efficient and accurate," UNLV Coach Jim Strong said. "He can drop it off to guys and get it into the seams."

While Kopp's abilitles were wellknown heading into last fall. Benjamin's were not. He had gained 97 yards in the first half of Pacific's 1990 season opener at Tennessee before aggravating a wrist he broke during preseason drills. He did not play the rest of the year.

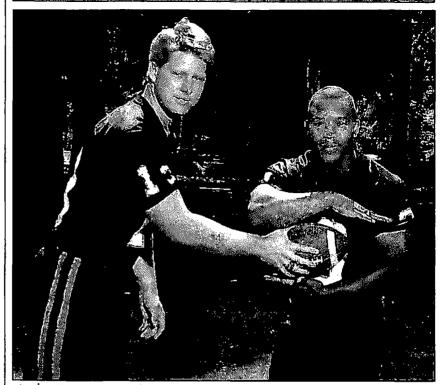
In the 1991 opener against Division II Sacramento State, Benjamin carried 14 times for 209 yards and caught six passes for another 70 yards. The coaching staff had him working out at both receiver and running back in preseason practices after injuries had depleted both positions.

Although he started at wide receiver in Pacific's third game against San Diego State, he was back at running back by the third offensive series. Benjamin rushed for 167 yards against the Aztecs and was never used as a wide receiver again.

"Throughout that week (prior to the San Diego State game), I was wondering if I was going to play running back or receiver," he said. "The coaches were convinced we couldn't run the ball because there'd be a guy unblocked. The next game they said, 'We'll let him go one-on-one.' "

'We thought he would take less of a pounding at receiver," said Harris, who coached the Tigers from 1989 through '91. "He was as good as we had against

BACKFIEL



Pacific backfield: Troy Kopp (left), Ryan Benjamin.

1. WASHINGTON

Kry players: "Jay Barry, TB; Mark Brunell, QB; "Beno Bryant, TB; "Billy Joe Hobert, QB; "Matt Jones, FB; Napoleon Kaufman, TB; Darlus Turner, FB.

2. MICHIGAN

Key players: Ed Davis, TB; Che' Foster, FB; "Elvis Grbac, QB; Jesse Johnson, TB; "Burnle Legette, FB; "Ricky Powers, TB; Tyrone Wheatley, TB.

3. MIAMI (FLA.)
Key players: Frank Costa, QB; Larry Jones, FB;
"Stephen McGuire, FB; "Darry! Spencer, TB;
James Stewart, FB; "Gino Torretta, QB.

4. GEORGIA TECH

Key players: William Bell, RB; Donnle Davis, QB; *Shawn Jones, QB; Dorsey Levens, RB; *Jimy Lincoln, RB; Michael Smith, FB.

5. FLORIDA

Key plsyers: Chris Bilkie, FB; Terry Dean, QB; Kedra Maione, RB; "Shane Matthews, QB; Dwayne Mobley, RB; Kelvin Randolph, FB; *Errict Rhett, RB.

6. NOTRE DAME

Key players: Lee Becton, TB; *Jerome Bettis, FB; Reggle Brooks, TB; Willie Clark, TB; Paul Failla, QB; *Rick Mirer, QB.

7. SAN DIEGO STATE

Key players: *Marshall Faulk, RB; Tim Gutierrez, QB; Kipp Jeffries, RB; *David Lowery, QB; Wayne Pittman, RB.

8. PACIFIC

Key players: "Ryan Benjamin, RB; Jessie Campbell, RB; Dave Henigan, QB; "Troy Kopp, QB: Steve Mehl, RB.

9. NEBRASKA

Key players: "Derek Brown, TB; Tommle Fra-zier, QB; Mike Grant, QB; Calvin Jones, TB; *Lance Lewis, FB.

10. BAYLOR

Key players: Tony Blockett, RB; *J.J. Joe, QB; *David Mims, TB; Tony Moore, QB; *Robert Strait, FB.

* Returning starter.

the bump-and-run on our practice field. I'll go out on a limb and say he could be a great receiver. He's better now as a runner because he's been doing that so long, but he could be a great receiver.

'Like Kopp, Benjamin thought of making himself eligible for the NFL draft last spring. Pacific has not produced an NFL player since wide receiver Lionel Manuel joined the New York Giants in 1984.

"I have to prove to the pro scouts that last year wasn't a fluke,", Benjamin said. "The pro teams like me, but they say it's a preview of a good movie. They just want to watch the whole picture."

Benjamin wants to expand that pic-

ture in 1992 by returning punts as well as kickoffs. He returned 35 kickoffs last season (for a 22.8-yard average) but only one punt.

The Tigers' offense probably won't change much, even with the coaching change. Shelton might opt, however, for more running and less passing, a ball-control style that will keep his defense off the field as much as possible.

"We have to go to Ryan more," Shelton said. "When you know what your abilities are, you can bring it under the umbrella and control it. We will not force the pass. The only thing you know is we're going to get yards."

Or miles.



Pass-catching is an art form for Hurricanes

By DAVID H. CARROLL Free-lance writer

hey turn the football field into their own highlight show, reeling off one dazzling play after another. Their performances are filled with acrobatic catches, electrifying sprints and end-zone celebrations.

They are the high-jumping and rapidmoving Miami (Fla.) wide receivers, and they should be the best in the nation—again.

Last season, the big-play passing game helped the Hurricanes to a share of their fourth national championship in nine years.

The scary thing is that Miami likely will have a more potent passing attack this fall. Wide receivers Lamar Thomas, Horace Copeland and Kevin Williams and tailback Darryl Spencer—the featured foursome in the "Ruthless Posse," as they like to be called—are all returning to play catch with Gino Torretta, Miami's strong-armed quarterback.

Last year, Torretta completed 205 of 371 passes for 3,095 yards and 20 touchdowns, with more than half of the completions going to this quartet.

"They take a lot of pressure off me because I know if I just put the ball in a position where they have a chance to catch it, they are going to find a way, somehow, to make the catch," he said. "And what they do with it after they catch it is amazing."

Mostly, what they do is blow past lunging defenders.

Williams, with his blurry 4.28-second speed in the 40-yard dash, is the fastest Hurricane ever. Then there are Copeland at 4.31 and Thomas and Spencer at 4.4. This blazing speed gives Miami its knockout punch.

Thomas led the Ruthless Posse last year with 39 catches for 623 yards and six touchdowns. He sets the tone for Miami's receivers with his emotional and aggressive style of play.

"I believe in going right after them," said Thomas, the man with the springy, spindly legs. "I want the guys across from us to realize there is hell to pay when you play against the 'Canes. Before the game is over, I want them to be

RECEIVERS



Miami (Fia.) receivers: (from left) Kevin Williams, Horace Copeland, Lamar Thomas, Darryl Spencer.

1. MIAMI (FLA.)

Key players: "Coleman Bell, TE; "Horace Copeland, SE; Chris Jones, WR; "Darryl Spencer, TB; "Lamar Thomas, FL; Kevin Williams, WR.

2. SYRACUSE

Key players: Kerry Ferrell, WR; "Chris Gedney, TE; "Shelby Hill, WR; "Qadry Ismail, WR; Antonio Johnson, WR.

3. FLORIDA

Key players: Charlie Dean, TE; Monty Duncan, WR; Tre Everett, WR; Harrison Houston, WR; Willie Jackson, WR; Greg Keller; TE.

4. SOUTHERN CAL

Key players: Bradford Banta, TE; "Curtis Conway, FL; Travis Hannah, FL; "Yonnie Jackson, TE; "Johnnie Morton, SE; Joel Scott, SE; Larry Wallace, FL/SE.

5. MISSOURI

Key players: "Victor Bailey, WR; "Byron Chamberlain, WR; "Kenny Holly, WR; Todd Moss, TE; A.J. Otodile, TE.

6. WASHINGTON STATE

Key players: "Phillip Bobo, SB; Brett Carolan, TE; "C.J. Davis, FL; Shane DeLaCruz, SB; Albert Kennedy, FL; "Deron Pointer, SE; Calvin Schexnayder, SE; "Clarence Williams, TE.

7. TEXAS CHRISTIAN

Key players: Stu Dickens, SB; "Kyle McPherson, SB; Mike Noack, TE; "Stephen Shipley, WR; Richard Woodley, WR.

8. VIRGINIA

Key players: "Andrew Dausch, WR; "Tyrone Davis, WR; Larry Holmes, WR; "Aaron Mundy, TE; Terrence Tomlin, WR.

9. HOUSTON

Key players: Daniel Adams, WR; *Fred Gilbert, WR; Tracy Good, WR; Keith Jack, WR; Thomas McGaughey, WR; Ron Peters, WR; Sherman Smith, WR.

10. GEORGIA

Key players: Ha'son Graham, WR; *Andre Hastings, FL; Jerry Jerman, WR; *Shannon Mitchell, TE; Jeff Thomas, WR.

* Returning starter.

saying, 'Wow, not only did they beat me deep, jump up over me and catch the ball and score touchdowns, but they also blocked the hell out of me all game long.'

Copeland shows that tenacity in his pursuit of airborne footballs.

"I love to hit full stride and lay myself out for the ball," confessed the finely tuned Copeland, who caught 31 passes for 592 yards and four touchdowns last season, including scores of 99 and 66 yards.

Spencer specializes in running pre-

cise patterns underneath the coverage, while Williams is a multitalented threat who often leaves defenders coughing in his exhaust. A year ago, Williams zipped to three TDs apiece on pass receptions and punt returns.

"Spence is smart and consistent—a guy we can count on to run the short routes and catch the ball," Torretta said. "And Kevin is incredible. He hits full speed in about three steps."

Torretta said if there is a better group of college receivers than these guys, he wants to see them.



Aggies' line is offensive in name only

By KIRK BOHLS
Austin American-Statesman

ohn Ellisor spent his first collegiate season at noseguard and made five tackles. Tyler Harrison practiced with the Texas A&M defense for two years. And, as a freshman, Dexter Wesley reported to the defensive unit during his first two-a-day drills.

Today, Ellisor, Harrison and Wesley make up part of one of college football's top 10 offensive lines.

Offensive? Yes, but in name only. That's because those three Aggies—with help from Chris Dausin and a fill-in-the-blank fifth man—bring an aggressive, defense-oriented attitude to the Aggles' offense. The starter to be named later? Either Todd Mathison, a high school All-America, or Jeff Jones, who—believe it or not—started out on defense. Both are sophomores.

"We take the mentality that we're tough, to put it bluntly," said Ellisor, a senior guard and probably Texas A&M's most dominant lineman. "I don't think we're a bunch of super-great athletes who can bench 600 pounds or run 4.6 in the 40. But we like to think we're the baddest dudes on the field. Hey, the best defense is a great offense."

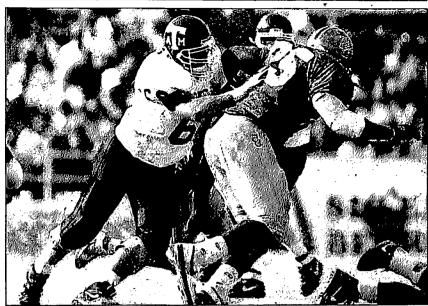
defense is a great offense."

If that's the case, Texas A&M had one of the top defenses around last year. That's because the Aggles' offensive line bullied defenses all season long, helping Texas A&M to a school-record 402 points and a berth in the Cotton Bowl as the Southwest Conference champion.

Considering that Ellisor was the sole returning starter on the line last fail, assistant coach Mike Sherman's unit came a long way. It did so without an All-America player among the ranks—although every starter along the forward wall wound up as an All-SWC first- or second-team selection. Accordingly, Sherman couldn't suppress a smile when his charges were honored at the Aggles' awards banquet last spring.

"Linemen eat up any type of publicity," Sherman said. "(But) for us to be recognized as one of the best units, we have to improve our pass protection. I don't think any of the guys is purely

OFFENSIVE LINES



Key ingredient: Center Chris Dausin is part of an outstanding Texas A&M offensive line.

1. NOTRE DAME

Key players: 'Justin Hall, T; Jordan Halter, T; Lance Johnson, C; 'Lindsay Knapp, T; Todd Norman, G; Tim Ruddy, C; 'Aaron Taylor, G.

2. MISSISSIPPI STATE

Key players: "Shea Bell, G; "Lee Ford, C; Jesse James, T; "John James, T; Byron Jordan, C; Kyle McCoy, C; "Michael Montgomery, T; "Bill Sartin, G; Jason Wisner, G.

3. STANFORD

Key players: "Brian Cassidy, 6; "Glen Cavanaugh, C; "Chris Dalman, 6; T.J. Gaynor, 6; "Steve Hoyem, T; Derron Klafter, T; Rick Pallow, C.

4. MICHIGAN

Key players: Paul Barry, G; "Joe Cocozzo, G; "Rob Doherty, T; "Steve Everitt, C; Trezelle Jenkins, T; "Doug Skene, G; Mike Sullivan, T.

5. ALABAMA

Ksy players: "William Barger, G; Tim Barnett, C; Napoleon Folks, G; "Matt Hammond, T; Kareem McNeal, T; Rory Segrest, T; "Toble Shells, C; "Jon Stevenson, T; "George Wilson, G

6. IOWA

Key players: "Scott Davis, T; "Mike Devlin, C; "Mike Ferroni, G; Bill Lange, T; Hal Mady, C; Bob Rees, T; Matt Purdy, G; Matt Quest, T; "Ted Velicer, G.

7. NEBRASKA

Key players: Terris Chorney, C; Dave Jensen, G; *Lance Lundberg, T; *Jim Scott, C; *Will Shields, G; T.J. Slansky, G; Zach Wiegert, T; Rob Zatechka, T; Chris Zyzda, G.

8. TEXAS A&M

Key players: "Chris Dausin, C; "John Ellisor, G; "Tyler Harrison, G; Jeff Jones, T; Todd Mathison, T; "Dexter Wesley, T.

9. OHIO STATE

Key players: "Len Hartman, G; "Alan Kline, T; "Paul Long, C; "Dave Monnot, G; Rod Smith, G; Jack Thrush, C; "Jason Winrow, T.

10. UCLA

Key players: Louie Ayala, T; James Christensen, G; *Aron Gideon, C; Ron Nielsen, G; *Craig Novitsky, T; *Vaughn Parker, T; Derek Stevens, G.

* Returning starter.

blessed athletically. We don't come off the ball and overpower you."

Don't let Sherman kid you. Players like Dausin, a junior center, love to flatten a defensive lineman and thereby receive credit for a "pancake" on the statistical sheet.

"That's when you drive a guy off the ball and roll him over on his back," Dausin explained. "I had close to 30 pancakes (in 1991)."

Dausin and friends take utter delight in getting an upper hand on opponents.

"We love going out and dominating people," he said. "We've all got a defensive attitude that we're not going to take crap off anybody."

Besides being talented and ultraaggressive, the Aggles' offensive line also is resilient. Harrison broke a bone in his wrist in two-a-day practices last year and had two bum shoulders, but he played all season. Ellisor didn't miss a start after breaking a bone in his left wrist in the second week of the season. Dausin played on after suffering a severe ankle sprain in the eighth week, while Wesley kept going despite playing most of last season with a bad knee.

"Hey, if you play as hard as we do," Ellisor said, "things are liable to break."

Things also must mend. The spring was an almost-complete loss for Harrison and Ellisor, both of whom underwent wrist surgery, while Wesley was held out of contact drills after sustaining a concussion in a car accident.

All, however, are expected to be serving up pancakes in the fall. ■



Michigan puts defensive line on the offensive

By BOB WOJNOWSKI **Detroit News**

f Michigan Coach Gary Moeller has made one indelible impression since replacing legendary Bo Schembechler after the 1989 season, it's his willingness to use all the weapons at his disposal.

In 1990, Moeller began to unlimber strong-armed quarterback Elvis Grbac. And last season, he unleashed Heisman Trophy-winning wide receiver Desmond Howard.

This year, he will unfetter a defensive line as quick, talented and deep as Michigan has had in years. Moeller has a new defensive line coach and a slightly new approach, built upon the attacking philosophy that helped Washington and Miami (Fla.) share the national championship in 1991.

"I want to be more aggressive up front," Moeller said. "I want my defense to set an offensive tone. I want a harder-charging line.'

Enter Greg Mattison, a hardcharging defensive line coach hired from Texas A&M after incumbent Tom Reed resigned to enter private busi-

"You will see a more attacking style, as opposed to a reading front," Mattison said. "We're going to keep the exact same style of defense (a 3-4 front), but I'm going to try to implement some things that were successful at A&M. We'll put pressure on the quarterback; we might not get him every play, but he'll know we're there every play."

It's a disruptive style that Washington displayed with graphic dominance last January 1 in its 34-14 pasting of the Wolverines in the Rose Bowl. It's the style Mattison taught at Texas A&M, helping the Aggies log a school-record 58 sacks last season, 28 by defensive linemen.

Michigan, conversely, totaled 27 sacks, 14 by linemen.

More reason for renewed hope at Michigan this season is the return to health of standout tackle Chris Hutchinson, bothered much of the last two seasons by back problems.

"This is the best I've felt in two years," Hutchinson said. "There's a



Michigan defensive line: (clockwise, from bottom) Greg Mattison (defensive line coach), Tony Henderson, Eric Graves, Steve Rekowski, Ninef Aghakhan, Chris Hutchinson, Buster Stanley.

1. MIAMI (FLA.)
Key players: Damon Bethel, E; Mark Caesar, T;
Darren Krein, E; Kenny Lopez, T; "Rusty Medearls, E; "Kevin Patrick, E; Patrick Riley, T; Baraka Short, E.

2. GEORGIA TECH

Key players: "Kevin Battle, NG; Curtis Duncan, T; "Richard Kimsey, T; "Coleman Rudolph, T; James Singleton, T/NG.

3. ALABAMA

Key players: *John Copeland, E; *Eric Curry, E; James Gregory, NT; Dameian Jeffries, E; Jeremy Nuntey, E.

4. PENN STATE

Key players: *Lou Benfatti, T; *Tyoka Jackson, T; *Eric Ravotti, T; Eric Renkey, NT; Greg Troxell, NT.

5. COLORADO

Key players: Jeff Brunner, NT; Brian Dyet, T; *Marcellous Elder, T; Darius Holland, T; *Leonard Renfro, T; Corey Smith, T.

* Returning starter.

6. MICHIGAN

KRy players: Ninef Aghakhan, MG; Eric Graves, MG; Tony Henderson, MG; "Chris Hutchinson, T; Steve Rekowski, T; "Buster Stanley, MG/T; Rob Vanderleest, T; Trent Zenkewicz, T.

7. KANSAS
Key players: "Gilbert Brown, T; "Brian Christian, E; "Guy Howard, E; Rod Jones, E; Chris Maumalanga, T; Ty Moeder, E; "Kyle Moore, E; "Dana Stubblefield, T.

8. NOTRE DAME

Key players: "Junior Bryant, T; Oliver Gibson, E; Germaine Holden, E; "Eric Jones, T; "Devon McDonald, E; "Karmeeleyah McGill, E; "Bryant Young, T.

9. FLORIDA STATE

Key players: Derrick Alexander, E; Dan Foot-man, E; Toddrick McIntosh, NG; Kelly Rush, E; Troy Sanders, DL; *Carl Simpson, E.

10. UCLA

Ksy players: "Mike Chalenski, E; Sale Isaia, NG; "Bruce Walker, NG; Gary Walton, E; Cory Wayland, T; Matt Werner, T.

new coach, a lot of new techniques, a new feeling. In the past, our line was supposed to read and react. Now we're going off the ball quicker, trying to make things happen in the backfield."

The Wolverines are so deep on the line—they lost only starting tackle Mike Evans from their two-deep corps-that Mattison might employ the platoon system he used at Texas A&M, featuring two three-man units playing two series at a time.

Hutchinson will anchor one tackle spot and sophomore Tony Henderson, a rising star, has cemented the middleguard position. Buster Stanley, a parttime starter at middle guard last year, is expected to man the other tackle spot, although Steve Rekowski has impressed.

Adding to the depth and versatility are Eric Graves, highly touted redshirt freshman Trent Zenkewicz and Ninef Aghakhan, who can play any line position.

"I was blessed with some outstanding players at A&M, but (Hutchinson) could be one of the best I've ever coached," Mattison said. "He's . . . tough and he's intelligent. He's the cornerstone of a group that has a chance to be something special."



Inside and out, Buffs loaded at linebacker

By B.G. BROOKS **Rocky Mountain News**

nad Brown pursues exotic snakes as fervently as he pursues quarterbacks. Given a choice between bagging a drop-back passer or a reptile, Brown just might opt for the one that doesn't strike from a pocket.

But on autumn Saturdays, quarterbacks are his quarry of choice. On a Colorado defense crawling with seasoned, talented linebackers, Brown, fellow senior Greg Biekert and junior Ron Woolfork constitute a formidable trap.

Add true sophomores Ted Johnson and Jon Knutson, who shared starting assignments inside last fall (opposite Biekert), and the Buffaloes' stable is solid inside and out.

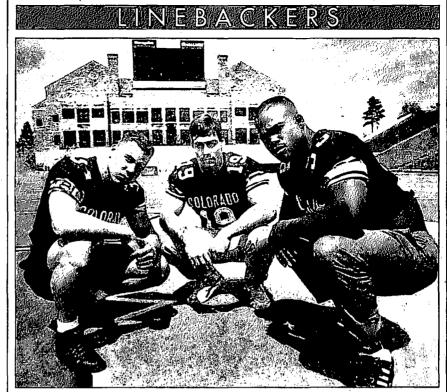
Bickert has led the team in tackles in each of the last two seasons, averaging 121/2 per game. His intensity and durability are certified, but last fall an assistant coach-former National Football League journeyman Brian Cabral-challenged Biekert to become more assertive among his teammates.

"I believe the linebacker has got to be the guy to take charge," said Cabral, who coaches Colorado's inside linebackers. "And that's exactly what he's done."

Entering the 1991 season, the Buffaloes were comfortable with their inside personnel. But in losing the outside tandem of Alfred Williams and Kanavis McGhee (taken in the first and second rounds, respectively, of the 1991 NFL draft), Colorado suddenly saw its flanks exposed.

To maintain their outside pass rush and perimeter strength, the Buffs looked inside for one replacement. Brown, an inside starter coming off the best game of his career in the '91 Orange Bowl (10 tackles, two pass deflections), was asked to move outside. Despite an initial reluctance, he complied.

"I'd always seen myself as an outside linebacker playing inside," said Brown, who demonstrated his interest in crawly creatures by embarking on a snake-hunting foray to Costa Rica the day after Colorado's appearance in the Blockbuster Bowl last winter. "I'm a lit-



Colorado linebackers: (from left) Chad Brown, Greg Biekert, Ron Woolfork.

1. COLORADO

Key players: "Greg Biekert, ILB; "Chad Brown, OLB; DeShannon Campbell, OLB; "Ted Johnson, ILB; Jon Knutson, ILB; Sam Rogers, CLB; *Ron Woolferk, OLB.

2. MIAMI (FLA.)

Key players: "Jessie Armstead, OLB; "Micheal Barrow, MLB; Robert Bass, LB; Bruce Eberst, MLB; Corwin Francis, OLB; Darrin Smith,

3. WASHINGTON

Key players: Hillary Butler, ILB; James Clifford, ILB; "Jaime Fields. OLB: James Fountains ILB; "Jaime Fields, OLB; Jamal Fountaine, OLB; "Dave Hoffmann, ILB; Dante Robinson, ILB; Danianke Smith, OLB.

4. TEXAS A&M

Key players: "Jason Atkinson, ILB; "Marcus Buckley, OLB; Jessie Cox, ILB; Reggle Graham, ILB; "Otis Nealy, OLB; Steve Solari,

5. FLORIDA STATE

Key players: Kevin Adams, ILB; Ken Alexander, ILB; Derrick Brooks, OLB; Chris Cowart, OLB; Reggie Freeman, OLB; Alonzo Horner, OLB; "Marvin Jones, ILB; "Sterling Paimer, OLB.

6. MICHIGAN

Key players: "Martin Davis, OLB; Dave Dobreff, ILB; Matt Dyson, OLB; Nate Holdren, ILB; "Steve Morrison, ILB; Bobby Powers, ILB; *Marcus Walker, ILB.

7. CLEMSON

Key players: Derek Burnette, LB; Marvin Cross, OLB; "Kenzil Jackson, ILB; Tim Jones, ILB; Bernard Randolph, OLB; "Ashley Sheppard, OLB; *Wayne Simmons, OLB.

8. NEBRASKA

Key players: Trev Alberts, OLB; "Mike Ander-son, ILB; Troy Branch, ILB; "Travis Hill, OLB; David Leader, OLB; Ed Stewart, ILB; "David White, OLB; Darren Williams, ILB.

9. SYRACUSE

Key players: Dan Conley, ILB; *Garland Hawkins, OLB; Reggie Terry, ILB; Chip Todd, OLB; *Glen Young, ILB.

10. STANFORD

Key players: *Dave Garnett, OLB; *Ron George, OLB; *Coy Gibbs, ILB; Jimmy Klein, LB; Toby Norwood, ILB; *Tom Williams, ILB.

* Returning starter.

tle more of a finesse player, like Alfred. I guess I'll get more 'pub.' Sacks are more glamorous than third-down stops.'

Penciled in opposite Brown was Woolfork, who settled in Boulder largely because of a recruiting promise. While other schools courted him as an "athlete," Colorado promised Woolfork that he would play his preferred position-quarterback, where he excelled in high school. That lasted all of one

Woolfork, who weighed 210 pounds as a freshman, "just outgrew the position-and I wanted to play somewhere." After a three-week stop at tight end, the 235-pounder was switched to defense.

Woolfork concluded 1991, his debut season at outside linebacker, with 13 sacks, one short of the school's singleseason record and more than either Williams or McGhee totaled in one season as a starter.

Including Brown's eight sacks, the Buffs got 21 from their new pair of outside starters. That's six above Williams' and McGhee's combined total as seniors-and yet another reason why Colorado believes in its linebacking corps.



Calling cards of Husky backs are big plays

By DICK ROCKNE Seattle Times

n the first quarter of the 1992 Rose Bowl, Michigan receiver Desmond Howard was running alone down the middle of the field, anticipating a deep pass from quarterback Elvis Grbac.

But about the time the ball arrived from Grbac, so did Washington free safety Shane Pahukoa and cornerback Walter Bailey. Both Huskies, whom Howard had beaten earlier in his route, revealed their exceptional speed and recovery ability in catching up to the 1991 Heisman Trophy winner.

The ball bounced off Howard, who by then was well-defended by Pahukoa, and into the arms of Bailey for a drive-

killing interception.

It was that kind of day for Howard, who caught only one pass in the Wolverines' 34-14 loss to the Huskies. Washington's physically gifted defensive backs did what no other group of defenders had been able to do all season: go manto-man with Howard and survive.

Three of those players—Bailey, Pahukoa and strong safety Tommie Smith-return to a secondary that sparked one of the nation's best defenses. The Huskies yielded only six touchdown passes and ranked third in Division I-A in passing defense and second in overall defense last season. Opposing quarterbacks completed only 46 percent of their passes, 21 of which were intercepted.

But statistics don't tell the whole story behind the success of the senior trio of Bailey, Pahukoa and Smith. Their ability to make big plays is what sets them apart from their peers at other schools. Those big plays helped Washington finish 12-0 and rank No. 1 in THE SPORTING NEWS and the USA Today/ CNN final polls.

Bailey, who led the Huskies with seven interceptions last year, personally established the tone in a 44-16 victory over Arizona State by Intercepting a pass on the initial play of the game to set up Washington's first touchdown. Then he recovered a fumble on the ensuing kickoff to set up the Huskies' second touchdown.

Pahukoa, who led secondary defend-

DEFENSIVE BACKFIEL



Washington defensive backs: (front) Louis Jones, (back, from left) David Killpatrick, Shane Pahukoa, Josh Moore and Walter Bailey.

1. Washington

Key players: "Walter Bailey, CB; Russell Hair-ston, CB; Louis Jones, SS; Lamar Lyons, FS; Josh Moore, CB; "Shane Pahukoa, FS; Reggie Reser, CB; "Tommie Smith, SS.

2. TEXAS

Key players: "Grady Cavness, CB; Joey Ellis; CB; "Willie Mack Garza, FS; "Lance Gunn, SS; Scooter Hesseltine, S; Jon Hunter, S; Jimmy Saxton, DB; Pascal Watty, CB.

3. UCLA

Key players: Travis Collier, SS; Donovan Galla-tin, SS; Robert Gamble, CB; Marvin Goodwin, SS; *Carlton Gray, CB; *Carl Greenwood, CB; *Othello Henderson, FS; Al Jordan, CB; Michael Williams, FS.

4. FLORIDA

Key players: Pete Archie, FS; Lawrence Hatch, CB; "Larry Kennedy, CB; Carlton Pouncy, FS; "Del Speer, CB; "Will White, FS.

5. NORTH CAROLINA STATE

Key players: Walt Gerard, CB; Mike Johnson,
SS; Marc Latta, CB; *Mike Reid, SS; *Sebastian Savage, CB; *Ricky Turner, FS; *Dewayne Washington, CB.

* Returning starter.

Key players: Doug Adkins, SS; "Jay Bellamy, FS; Tim Geckeler, CB; "Malik Jackson, SS; Keith Price, CB; "Marshall Roberts, CB; Shaun Smith, FS; Mark Washington, CB; Kelly Woodward, CB.

7. FLORIDA STATE

Key players: Clifton Abraham, CB; Lavon Brown, SS; "John Davis, SS; "Leon Fowler, FS; Corey Fuller, CB; Tommy Henry, CB; Corey Sawyer, CB.

8. PENN STATE

Key players: *Derek Bochna, CB; Llonel Fayard, CB; Mark Graham, CB; Shelly Hammonds, SS; Gelf Kerwin, SS; Tony Pittman, S; *Lee Rubin, FS; Frank Yeboah-Kodie, CB.

9. OHIO STATE

Key players: "Bryan Cook, CB; "Roger Harper, SS; Marlon Kerner, CB; "Chico Neison, FS; Tito Paul, SS; *Foster Paulk, CB; Walter Taylor, FS; Tim Walton, CB.

10. TULSA

Key players: "James Blake, SS; Brian Brown, DB; "Stephen Ford, CB; Herbert Harvey, FS; "Dennis Hickey, FS; Willie Hill, CB; Chandler

ers with 57 tackles, intercepted three passes, including one in the end zone against Southern California that ended a Trojan scoring threat in a 14-3 Washington victory.

Smith's physical versatility made him a central figure in Washington's attacking defensive schemes. At times, he lined up as a linebacker and still was able to get into pass coverage. On other occasions, he also made big plays. When Washington State was threatening to rally against the Huskies, Smith picked off a pass and returned it 86 yards to extinguish the Cougars' hopes in a 56-21 Washington win.

Washington hopes to find a big-play replacement for cornerback Dana Hall, the only senior in last year's defensive backfield. But secondary coach Chris Tormey likes the candidates who will compete for Hall's spot.

"They're all solid prospects, but they're all unproven," Tormey said of sophomores Josh Moore and Russell-Hairston and redshirt freshman Reggie Reser. "They change direction well. They can backpedal and break.

Aside from replacing Hall, the biggest problem facing the backs may be the loss of several key pass rushers who constantly pressured quarterbacks, thus making their job easier.

But just because the team's sack potential might be down, the Huskies don't have any immediate plans to change their emphasis on man-to-man coverage, which they played 50 percent of the time in '91.

"You kind of have to go with what's working," Tormey said. "But if we're not getting pressure (on the quarterback), we're not going to leave those guys out there to dry."

Chances are good, however, that with Bailey, Pahukoa and Smith in action, only rival receivers are destined to be hung out to dry.

Devastating losses

It's off the field that Jackson State still suffers

By DAVID CUMMINGS Jackson Clarion-Ledger

itting in his office, W.C. Gorden is surrounded by memorabilia of his 16 years as Jackson State's head football coach. The walls are covered with plaques and photographs, a testament to the amazing success the Tigers attained under Gorden, who stepped down as football coach to become athletic director in the off-season.

On the walls of Gorden's old coaching office across campus, more memorabilia is on display. But in this office, six very special photos hang on the wooden walls. The photos are of the six Jackson State football players who have died since March 1988 in what has become a bizarre string of deaths at one of the most successful Division I-AA college football programs.

"It's something we did to make sure these kids are never forgotten," Gorden said of the photos.

The first victim in this tragic series of events was defensive back Antonio Rogers, who was killed in an auto accident on his way home to Prichard, Ala., on March 11, 1988. Sam Jefferson, Jackson State's sports information director, said the team and coaches cried together, went to the funeral together and learned how to accept the loss of a young man who was projected to be a two-year starter.

"The hardest thing was talking to the parents," Jefferson said. "You felt obligated to do it, but it never got easy."

"Rogers' death was devastating to the team," Gorden said. "But the young men understood life went on."

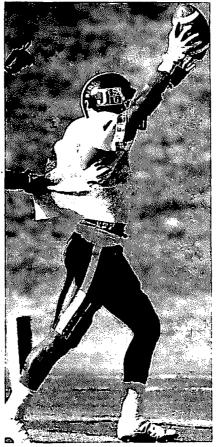
What nobody knew, however, was that Rogers' death was a harbinger of things to come.

On July 27, 1989, running back Earl Eatmon died from injuries sustained in a car crash in his hometown of Hattiesburg, Miss. The following spring, on April 16, 1990, linebackers Michael Kimble and Casey Conner and defensive back Charles Ford died together in an automobile accident on their way back to school from spring break.

"Those guys were close," Gorden said. "Each one of them was different in his own way, but together they were one and the same."

Gorden said the team and university had accepted Rogers' death. After Eatmon's death, he said, "There was a feeling of 'Oh, not again.'"

But when Kimble, Conner and Ford were killed after the automobile they were driving ran off Highway 49 outside of Jackson, "it was just too much to take," Gorden said.



Gone but not forgotten: More than wins and losses, Jackson State players remember their deceased teammates, including All-America cornerback Robert Turner.

Spring practice was canceled for the first time.

"The coaches, the players, we all needed someone to talk to," Gorden said. "It was too hard to accept."

That's when Dr. Mildred Allen was brought in.

Allen, the vice president of student affairs at Jackson State, immediately sought help from the university's counseling center, local clergy and psychiatrists. A series of meetings with players and coaches culminated in a memorial service on campus in which the whole school participated.

But, Allen said, it wasn't enough. After the memorial service, Allen and a group of psychiatrists began one-on-one sessions with players, coaches and students.

"We had to let members of the team know they had no reason to believe something was after them," Allen said. "Situations like this happen, and the players needed to know the team wasn't snakebitten and nobody needed to worry about whether or not they were next."

The funeral for Kimble, Conner and Ford "was emotionally and physically draining," wide receiver Jimmy Smith said. At the time, he wished it would be the last time he would have to wear his black double-breasted suit to a teammate's funeral.

It wasn't.

Robert Turner, an All-America cornerback on the Tigers' 1990 Southwestern Athletic Conference championship team, was shot to death in his hometown of Port Gibson, Miss., on May 19, 1991

Known for being in the right place at the right time on the field, Turner's timing was off the night he left his house to check on a relative involved in a fight at a nightclub. On his way home from the altercation, Turner was fatally shot with a double-barreled shotgun in his front yard.

"We had another funeral to attend," Gorden said. "But if there is anything good out of all of this, it's that none of the deaths happened on campus. They were all off campus, and that sort of softened the shock."

Gorden also takes solace in the fact that each victim's family requested the player be buried in his football jersey, and that his Tigers were able to stay focused and play winning football.

Still, players like starting quarterback Ricky Jordan remember their friends more than wins and losses.

During the 1991 season, Jordan had Turner's nickname (Show-Time) written on tape around his ankles and Turner's jersey number 2 etched in red ink on the heels of his cleats.

"A lot of guys on the team did something in their own way," Jordan said. "But Robert and I were close from Day One. I thought it would be a good way of keeping him around."

Which Jefferson wished he knew how to do.

"If there was one thing I wish, it's that we can go 12 months without losing a player," Jefferson said. "There is nothing I wouldn't do to make that happen, nothing."

But Jackson State nearly had another brush with tragedy. Last September, running back James Johnson was shot in the stomach outside the school's cafeteria in an incident that still is under investigation. Johnson, the team's leading rusher at the time, survived, but he didn't play the rest of the season. He'll play this fall for the Tigers, a team that will never let the memory of its fallen teammates die.

0 0

1. MARSHALL

Fifteen angry starters return to a team that fell to Youngstown State in I-AA title game.

2. NORTHERN IOWA

Eight starters are back on the prowl for a defense that ranked fourth nationally.

3. YOUNGSTOWN STATE

Defending I-AA champs again boast a strong running game and secondary.

4. DELAWARE

QB Bill Vergantino directs one of the East's most dangerous offenses.

5. APPALACHIAN STATE

Senior-laden defense spearheads the '91 Southern champ's bid to repeat.

.E TENN. STATE

A sturdy offensive line and fleet receivers make the Blue Raiders tops in the OVC.

Six All-Southland picks return to a team , that just missed the playoffs last year.

8. VILLANOVA

Terrific talent at the quarterback and linebacker spots makes the Wildcats deadly.

9. SAMFORD

The surprise entry in last year's playoff semifinals should breaze into postseason.

10. EASTERN KENTUCKY

Slashing RB Markus Thomas, I-AA's finest back, paces a run-happy Colonel offense.

11. IDAHO

With powerful Nevada moving to 1-A, the Big Sky is the Vandais' to lose.

12. McNEESE STATE

LB Terry Irving is just one of 20 starters back for defending Southland champions.

13. ALCORN STATE

Super sophomore Steve McNair should lead the Braves to the SWAC title.

14. MONTANA

There's simply no telling what kind of numbers QB Brad Lebo could put up this season.

15. SW MISSOURI STATE

Despite losing 12 starters, the Bears again are potentially feroclous.

16. JAMES MADISUN

Sparked by OB Eriq Williams and RB Kenny Sims, the Dukes are a playoff hopeful.

17. UT-CHATTANOOGA

QB Kenyon Earl and RB James Roberts are just two of the Mocs' lethal weapons.

18. WEBER STATE

What will 4,000-yard passer Jamle Martin do for an encore?

19. GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Once a postseason mainstay, the Eagles hope to return to the playoffs in '92.

20. FURMAN

Furman, an underdog? Color these Purple Paladins green.

V. CP PV.V VIEW CONTRACTOR

- QUARTERBACKS Jamie Martin Michael Payton **Eriq Williams**
- Doug Nussmeler Brad Lebo
- Tem Colombo Steve McNair 8
- Jay Johnson Ak. **RUNNING BACKS**
- Markus Thomas Barry Bourassa Willie English
- Kenny Sims Carl Tremble **Eric Gant Toby Davis**
- Roosevelt Potts WIDE RECEIVERS
- John Perry Troy Brown
- **Corey Ludwig** Kenny Shedd Micháel Lerch **Alex Davis**
- **Vincent Brisby** Yo Murphy
- TIGHT ENDS
- Darren Rizzi Carlos Treadway **Chris Nuss**
- **Scott Donald** Mike Bartrum
- Ron Hocey OFFENSIVE LINEMEN
- Phil Ratliff (G)
- Steve McAdoo (T) Lorenzo Carpenter (C)
- Rex Nottage (T) Randy Crane (G)
- Carey Cash (T) Marcus Spears (T) 8.
- Mark Schneible (G) **DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** Rk.
- Jeff Robinson (E) Avery Hall (NG) Alex Mash (NG) Chad Bratzke (Ť)
- Chris Vecchione (E) Tom McDonald (T)
- LeRoy Thompson (E) 8 Michael Strahan (E)
- LINEBACKERS
- **Curtis Eller Rico Mack**
- Terry Irving William Freeney
- Ken McMillan Mark Blazejewski
- Donahue Stephenson
- 8. **Rick Hamilton**
- **DEFENSIVE BACKS** Rk. Warren McIntire
- **Adrion Smith**
- **Latrod Garner** Marcus Durgin
- **Dave Roberts** Morgan Ryan
- Terry Arnold Darryl Pounds

Class School Weber State Sr.

HL/WL

6-4/210

6-0/220

6-4/210

6-4/210

5-7/159

6-1/210

6-2/182

5-7/165

6-0/212

6-0/180

6-4/225

6-2/266

6-4/282 6-2/240

6-0/230

6-3/265

6-0/270

6-4/298

6-4/270

HI./WL

6-5/255

6-0/253

6-2/250

6-4/235 6-3/228

6-4/240 6-4/240 6-5/260

ÁL/WL

6-0/225

6-4/220

6-0/219

BL/WL

HL/WL

- Sr. Marshall 5-10/165 Sr. James Madison Jr. ldaho Montana Villanova
- Soph Alcorn State Sr. Northern Iowa Class Seboal 5-10/195 Eastern Kentucky Sr.
 - Šr. New Hampshire Central Florida James Madison Sr. Furman Grambling State
- 5-10/190 6-2/240 6-1/224 6-2/235 Illinois State Sr. Northeast Louisiana HL/WL Class School 5-10/180 New Hampshire Sr.
- 5-9/184 Marshall 6-1/180 Sr. William & Mary 5-9/157 Northern lowa 5-7/160 Sr. Princeton 6-1/184 Sr. Connecticut 6-2/183 Northeast Louisiana Sr. Idaho
- 5-10/158 HL/Wt. Class School 6-2/228 Sr. Rhode Island 6-3/238 Sr. Northwestern State 6-4/218 Northern lowa 6-5/250 Sr. Villanova 6-4/240 Marshall
 - Sr. **Holy Cross** School Marshall Class Sr. Middle Tennessee State Šr. Virginia Military Institute
 - Sr. Georgia Southern Villanova Sr. The Citadel Northwestern State
 - Sr. **New Hampshire** Class School Sr. Idaho Appalachian State Sr. Georgia Southern Ĵr. Jr. Eastern Kentucky Youngstown State
 - Šr. **Holy Cross** Sr. **Delaware State** Sr. Texas Southern Class School
- Villanova Appalachian State Sr. McNeese State 5-10/195 Northern Iowa 6-1/230 Western Illinois 6-0/225 Fordham 6-0/235 Marshall
- 6-2/240 Sr Central Florida KL/WL Class Schaal 5-11/185 Delaware Southwest Missouri St. 5-10/173 .lr. 5-11/180 Ĵ٢. Alabama State
- Samford 5-10/193 Sr. Youngstown State 5-11/192 Jr. Montana State 5-9/174 Jackson State 5-11/170
 - Soph. Nicholls State



Doug Nussmeier, Idaho



Alex Davis. Connecticut



Alex Mash, Georgia Southern



Darryl Pounds, Nicholls State

LAYERS H E YEAR



OFFENSE: Jamle Martin. QB. Weber State DEFENSE: Curtis Eller LB, Villanova



Great expectations affect Martin as much as a timid pass rush

By ERIC DIETERLE Standard-Examiner

or a record-breaking quarterback, Jamie Martin likes the way he runs. He'd better, because he'll get plenty of chances this season.

The Weber State senior, who sidesteps praise and dodges pressure with a cavalier attitude, will need to use plenty of fancy footwork to succeed with a team that has lost much of its firepower to graduation.

'I think I'll have to play better," said Martin, who played well enough last season to lead the nation's most potent Division I-AA offense (581.4 yards per game) and capture the Walter Payton Award as the top I-AA player. "I'll have to concentrate on being more accurate and making the best decisions I can. I can't just throw it up to Dave Hall or Alfred Pupunu anymore."

Wide receiver Hall and tight end Pupunu are gone, as are two other receivers, three offensive linemen and running back Geoff Mitchell, who led I-AA players in scoring. Last season, with an offense that wouldn't quit and a defense that showed up at opportune moments, those players helped the Wildcats compile an 8-3 record, finish second in the Big Sky Conference and advance to the I-AA playoffs, where they lost in the first round.

The 6-foot-4, 210-pound Martin did his share of work, too, completing 310 of 500 passes for 4,125 yards and 35 touchdowns while leading I-AA players in total offense (394.3 yards per game) for the second straight year. He set I-AA single-game records for total offense (643 yards) and passing yards (624) against Idaho State.

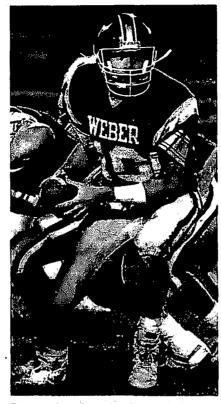
But this season, Martin will see more unfamiliar faces than a long-lost uncle at a family reunion. It's the same situation that Brigham Young's Ty Detmer faced as a senior last year: a great quarterback holding up a ton of expectations, surrounded by inexperience.

With that in mind, Martin knows the 1992 season will be a test of his creative and physical skills, but it's a test he feels equipped to pass. The '92 campaign also will be a test of Martin's scrambling ability, which he describes as one of his best attributes.

"It's taking a bad play and making it a good play," said Martin, who ran for 212 yards last year. "Probably my biggest strength is my experience over the last few years.'

Indeed, Martin knows the complex Weber State offense as well as anyone, including its creator, Coach Dave Arslanian.

"He is mastering so many facets of the game of offensive football," Ar-



Prepared student: Jamie Martin knows the 1992 season will be a test of his creative and physical skills.

·slanian said. "From the time Jamie took over as starting quarterback, I've been anxious and excited to see how far we could take him and he could take us.

Whether Jamie can be as productive remains to be seen. We expect him to have a better season overall."

So does everyone else. Martin knows his teammates will look to him for leadership. Coaches around the Big Sky are calling him a National Football League prospect and listing Weber State as a contender simply because he'll be on the field. Fans will show up to see scoring in basketball-game proportionsthe Wildcats scored 63, 62 and 60 points in separate games last year—and new records with every throw. In short, Martin must carry the team.

"This is going to be the first time I've been through it," Martin said. "I'll kind of act like I don't care. I'll just forget about it."

So much for the pressure of expectations. It affects Martin about as much as a timid pass rush. He'd rather not be a media star or play in a major market, where the attention is inescapable. Martin's interest lies elsewhere. His goal for this season is clear.

"The Big Sky championship," Martin said. "I'm not thinking about setting records in the Big Sky. That's how you start putting pressure on yourself."



2. MONTANA

3. WEBER STATE **4. BOISE STATE**

5. EASTERN WASHINGTON 6. NORTHERN ARIZONA

IDAHO STATE 8. MONTANA STATE

ALL-BIG SKY TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class TREVOR SHAW, Weber State, Sr.

YO MURPHY, Idaho, Sr. PETE MOLINO, Idaho State, Sr.

LEE DUNCAN, Bolse State, Sr. JODY SCHNUG, Idaho, Jr.

JIMI SCHMIDT, E. Washington, Sr.

ART McDONALD, Northern Arizona, Jr. CHRIS SCHNEIDER, Idaho, Sr.

JAMIE MARTIN, Weber State, Sr.

HAROLD WRIGHT, E. Washington, Jr. GERALD ROBINSON, N. Arizona, Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos.

Name. School. Class JEFF ROBINSON, Idaho, Sr. DΙ

JEFF NEWTON, Montana State, Sr.

JOHN SIRMON, Idaho, Sr.

MATT McLAUGHLIN, Boise State, Sr.

CHAD LEMBKE, Montana, Sr.

SCOTT MONK, Boise State, Jr.

ERIC ESCANDON, Boise State, Jr.

TODD ERICSON, Montana, Jr.

MORGAN RYAN, Montana State, Jr.

SEAN HILL, Montana State, Jr.

FREDRICK X, Weber State, Jr.

SPECIALISTS

TERRY BELDEN, Northern Arizona, Jr.

TOM SUGG, Idaho, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Martin, **QB.** Weber State



DEFENSE: Jeff Robinson. DL. Idaho

BESKYFFAWYGLARIS

BOISE STATE

Cosch: Skip Hall (37-22, 5 years). 1991 record: 7-4. Big Sky: 4-4/14th. Key players: Lee Duncan, OT; Eric Escandon, LB; Sheldon Forehand, WR; Durelle Goodloe, DE; Kerry Lawyer, WR; Ken McKelvey, CB; Matt McLaughlin, LB; Jeff Mladenich, QB; Scott Monk, LB; Jeff Pitman, C; Greg Sabala, DE; Sean Sanders, TB; Chris Shepherd, DT; David Tingstad, FB; Mike Wilson, WR.

Strangths: Defense is a trademark of the Broncos, and this year's experienced linebacker corps will anchor the team. McLaughlin, Escandon and Monk are among Division I-AA's best. With nearly every skil-position player returning on offense under the direc-tion of accurate quarterback Mladenich, Boise State could go from just stopping people to scoring a few points of its own.

Weaknesses: A completely rebuilt defensive secondary will be under fire in the pass-happy Big Sky. There are problems up the middle on both sides of the

ball because of a lack of experience.

Outlook: A traditional challenger for the conference title, Boise State should find itself in a familiar position. If the defense can't match its past domination, the Broncos will need to generate more points than

Schedule: UT-Chattanooga, Sept. 5; at Idaho State, Sept. 12; Pacific, Sept. 19; at Stephen F. Austin State, Sept. 26; Montana, Oct. 3; at Northern Arizona, Oct. 10; Weber State, Oct. 17; Portland State, Oct. 24; at Montana State, Oct. 31; at Eastern Washington, Nov. 14; Idaho, Nov. 21.

Nicksame: Broncos. Site: Boise, Idaho.

EASTERN WASHINGTON

Coach: Dick Zornes (75-59-2, 13 years). 1991 record: 5-6. Big Sky: 4-4/4th. Key players: Tony Brooks, WR: Harold Fox, DL; Derek Hart, DL; Jackie Kellogg, DB; Alex Lacson, K/WR, Jason Marsh, LB; Joe Peterson, LB; Jimi Schmidt, OL; Pat Sievers, DB; Craig Steinmetzer, DL; Mark

OC, Pat Sievers, DB; Graig Steinmetzer, DL; Mark Tenneson, QB; Dan Thurston, WR; Chuckle Welch, DB; Tommy Williams, DB/LB; Harold Wright, RB. Strengtha: It won't be hard to keep the ball in danger-ous hands, as the trio of quarterback Tenneson, run-ning back Wright and receiver Brooks can light it up. The accurate foot of place-kicker Lacson adds to the

scoring punch.
Weeknesses: Seven defensive starters are back—unfortunately. This group surrendered 433 yards per game last season, and its only bright spot—the secondary-is decimated. It's the same story with the offensive line, which could be more accommodating to opposing defenses than to its own game plan.

Callest: Scoring points has never been a problem, so the Eagles keep waiting for the year their defense comes together. To the extent that it does, Eastern Washington will be a threat in nearly every game it

State (Calif.), Sept. 19; at Montana, Sept. 12; Sonoma State (Calif.), Sept. 19; at Montana, Sept. 26; Weber State, Oct. 3; Montana State, Oct. 10; Idaho, Oct. 17; at Northern Arizona, Oct. 24; at Idaho State, Oct. 31; at Northeast Louisiana, Nov. 7; Bolse State, Nov. 14,

Nickname: Eagles. Site: Cheney, Wash.

IDAHO

Coach: John L. Smith (24-12, 3 years). 1991 record: 6-5. Big Sky: 4-4/T4th. Kop players: Alan Allen, WR; Darrick Davis, DB; Josh

Key shytrs: Alan Allen, WR; Darrick Davis, DB; Josh Fetter, LB; Duke Garrett, LB (RS/shoulder); Mat Groshong, C; Yo Murphy, WR; Doug Nussmeler, QB; Jeff Robinson, DE; Walter Saunders, WR; Chris Schneider, G; Jody Schnug, OT; Billy Sims, DE; John Sirmon, DT; Tom Sugg, P; Ronnie White, RB. Strengths: The Vandals have made trench warfare fashionable again with a defensive line that will dominate. Robinson, the Big Sky's Defensive Player of the Year in 1991, will team with Sims and Sirmon in an intimidating lineup. Offensively, Murphy is a 100-of-the-line receiver, and Nussmeler could be the top-of-the-line receiver, and Nussmeier could be the

top-or-life-time-feeters, and resonants could be accordence in second-best quarterback.

Weaknesses: A struggling offensive line could make things interesting for idaho's skill players, and there's a distinct lack of depth in the defensive back-

field.

Outlook: If there aren't any major injuries, Idaho will be in the Big Sky title hunt and quite possibly could win it. The Vandais have the kind of balance and experience a championship team needs.

perience a championship team needs. Setsdule: St. Cloud (Minn.) State, Sept. 5; at Colo-rado State, Sept. 12; Weber State, Sept. 19; Cal State Northridge, Oct. 3; Idaho State, Oct. 10; at Eastern Washington, Oct. 17; at Northern Iowa, Oct. 24; Northern Arizona, Oct. 31; at Montana, Nov. 7; Montana State, Nov. 14; at Boise State, Nov. 21.

Mickname: Vandals.

Site: Moscow, Idaho.

IDAHO STATE

Cosch: Brian McNeely (first year as head coach).
1991 record: 3-7-1. Big Sky: 2-6/7th.
Key players: Aaron Eleazer, S; Robert Ford, NG; Scott
Hersley, RB; Brian Holland, LB; Sylvester Jones, WR;
Mahe Liava'a, LB; Zay Martin, LB; Pete Molino, TE;
Sean Mottishaw, DE; Tom Prudhomme, LB; Clarence
Resse, CB; Brady Scott, DT; Tom Sharp, WR; Jeff
Vrbas, OL/DL; Rommle Wheeler, WR.
Strennihe: McNeely Likes the Look of his defense

Strengths: McNeely likes the look of his defense, which will be in an attack mode, and he insists the offense will have more balance than is usually found in the Big Sky. Talent is lining up at quarterback, but experience is missing.

walnesses: Depth is a problem in nearly every area as McNeely tries to rebuild the program, idaho State doesn't have the numbers to deal with any significant injuries and could get worn down as the season

Outlook: While the Bengals won't be contenders, they would like to establish something to carry over into the 1993 season. If any kind of consistency is devel-oped, Idaho State could be headed in a positive di-

Sebedula: Mesa State (Colo.), Sept. 5; Boise State, Sept. 12; at Northern Iowa, Sept. 19; at Northern Ari-zona, Sept. 26; Central Washington, Oct. 3; at Idaho, Oct. 10; at Montana State, Oct. 17; at Weber State, Oct. 24; Eastern Washington, Oct. 31; Southern Utah State, Nov. 14; Montana, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Bengais. Site: Pocatello, Idaho.

MONTANA

Coach: Don Read (45-24, 6 years; 114-115-1 overall, 22 years).

22 years).

1991 record: 7-4. Big Sky: 6-2/2nd.

Key players: Shalon Baker, WR; Shannon Cabunoc, WR; Mike Carlsen, WR; Bill Cockhill, WR; Sam Davidson, DE; Sean Dorris, S; Todd Ericson, S; Frank Garrett, OG; Brad Lebo, OB; Chad Lembke, LB; Chuck Mason, DT; Kelly McCallum, DE; Marc Monestime, RB; Bryan Payne, OT; Tony Rice, RB.

Streegibs: If defense can be exciting, then the Grizzlles might provide thrills galore in 1992. Buyed by All, Bin Sty setections Fricson and Lembke, plus.

All-Big Sky selections Ericson and Lembke, plus a host of experienced players, Montana's defense will be formidable.

Weaknesses: The offensive line will require some re-building, but returnees at the skill positions should help pick up the stack.

Oallock If the offensive line grows up quickly, there could be no stopping the Grizzlies. A road game against Weber State in the heart of the Big Sky schedule could make or break the season.

Schedule: At Washington State, Sept. 5; Cal State

Weber State, Oct. 24; Idaho, Nov. 7; Hofstra, Nov. 14; at Idaho State, Nov. 21.

Mickname: Grizzlies

Site: Missoula, Mont

MONTANA STATE

Coach: Cliff Hysell (first year as head coach).
1991 record: 2-9. Big Sky: 1-7/9th.
Key players: Ernie Boyd, CB; Cory Brye, OG; Reggie
Carthon, CB; Sean Hill, CB; Charles Jackson, LB;
Marty Milton, C; Jeff Newton, NG; Morgan Ryan, S; Si
Ryan, FB; Rob Tesch, SE; Jeremy Wicht, FB.
Strengths: If the ball is in the air, Montana State is in

the game-but not because the Bobcats are doing the throwing. Montana State has two talented cornerbacks in Carthon and Hill and a standout safety

in Morgan Ryan. With Newton anchoring the defensive line, this could be a tougher bunch than generally anticipated. Hysell promises pressure, pressure, pressure.

Wesknesses: Tight end and running back are two black holes for the Bobcats' offense, which may em-ploy recruits fresh out of high school to run the ball. The backs might not get far, as the offensive line needs extensive work.

Butlook: Hysell has too much work to do to make Montana State a contender this season, but the Bob-

Montana State a contender this season, but the Bob-cats could make nuisances of themselves. Sehedula: At Sacramento (Calif.) State, Sept. 5; Ste-phen F. Austin State, Sept. 12; Mesa State (Colo.), Sept. 19; at Weber State, Sept. 26; Northern Arizona, Oct. 3; at Eastern Washington, Oct. 10; Idaho State, Oct. 17; at Montana, Oct. 24; Boise State, Oct. 31; at Idaho, Nov. 14; at UNLV, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Bobcats. Sile: Bozeman, Mont.

NORTHERN ARIZONA

Cosch: Steve Axman (8-14, 2 years).
1991 rescrd: 3-8. Big Sky: 1-7/9th.
Key players: Rod Alexander, WR; Terry Beiden, K/P;
Jeff Bergman, DB; Gary Bladow, DB; John Bonds, QB;
Wes Dearmore, DL; Todd Johnson, DT; Alex Marcelin, DB; Art McDonald, OL; Gerald Robinson, RB;
Frank Romano, LB; Greg Semas, DL; Beau Smith, LB;
Scott Strini, LB; Chuck Walton, DL.
Strengtis: Northern Arizona might be young, but last
year it was really young—meaning there are some
experienced hands in Flagstaff for the '92 season.
Place-kicker/punter Beiden is one of the confer-

Place-kicker/punter Belden is one of the conference's top talents. Quarterback Bonds directs a potent pro-style offense.

Weaknesses: A young defense took its lumps last sea-son, so maturity will be a critical factor. The Lum-berjacks must prove they can stop someone. Outlack: Northern Arizona is no power, but the Lum-berjacks have all the ingredients to be a spoiler. Look

for Axman's team to knock off a league title con-

Schodule: Southern Utah State, Sept. 5; Northeastern, Sept. 12; at UNLY, Sept. 19; Idaho State, Sept. 26; at Montana State, Oct. 3; Boise State, Oct. 10; at Montana, Oct. 17; Eastern Washington, Oct. 24; at Idaho, Oct. 31; Weber State, Nov. 7; Minnesota-Duluth, Nov. 14.

Nickname: Lumberjacks. Site: Flagstaff, Ariz.

WEBER STATE

Cosch: Dave Arsianian (16-18, 3 years). 1991 record: 8-4 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Big Sky: 6-2/2nd.

Big Sky. 0-27210.

Key players: Jantz Afuvai, LB; Miller Atagi, OG; Nate Burchette, WR; Todd Casey, OG; Paul Kongaika, OT; Shay Liggins, S; Jamle Martin, OB; Lamar Mickey, CB; Ty Opheikens, LB; Tim Otton, DE; Dwight Richards, RB; Patrik Schmidle, K; Trevor Shaw, WR; Del

ards, HS; Paulik Schmidle, N, 119901 Sham, Wh. 201 Stilson, WR; Fredrick X, CB. Straughts: Quarterback. Martin wins games on his own, or at least he has Big Sky rivals convinced that he can. He'll be hoping Weber State's experience the defense can provide enough breaks to keep the of-fense rested and ready. That task will be left to new defensive coordinator Paul Arslanian, brother of the head coach.

Weaknesses: The Wildcats still have the trigger man, but the rest of the arsenal is in pieces. Openings at wide receiver, running back, tight end and along the line will be tough to fill right away.

Outlook: Martin is a great talent, but one man can't win a game—OK, not every game. Martin's new re-ceivers must step to the forefront quickly, and the defense needs to prove it learned something last season. Weber State will be in the race, but only rapid development can propel the Wildcats toward

the top.

Schedule: At New Mexico State, Sept. 5; Southern
Utah State, Sept. 12; at Idaho, Sept. 19; Montana
State, Sept. 26; at Eastern Washington, Oct. 3; MonState, Sept. 26; at Eastern Washington, Oct. 3; MonOct. 10; at Roise State. Oct. 17; Idaho State, tana, Oct. 10; at Boise State, Oct. 17; Idaho State, Oct. 24; at Nevada, Oct. 31; at Northern Arizona, Nov. 7; McNeese State, Nov. 21. Hickname: Wildcats.

Site: Ogden, Utah.

Text by Eric Dieterle.

Panthers' offense should purr with return of Shedd, Johnson

By DOUG NEWHOFF Waterloo Courier

he compliments fly back and forth between Kenny Shedd and Jay Johnson almost as quickly as the footballs that Johnson rockets across the gridiron to Shedd. Northern Iowa's quarterback and receiver/return specialist are constantly patting each other on the back.

"With his great athletic ability and with the type of athlete he is, when we're in a tough situation or need a big play, Kenny is always there," Johnson said. "He's definitely a big-time play-

Shedd appreciates Johnson's praise, but he knows the Panthers' quarterback is partly responsible for his success. In fact, Shedd considers Johnson the best signal-caller in the Division I-AA ranks. He has seen the best quarterbacks I-AA has had to offer in recent seasons, including Weber State's Jamie Martin, Marshall's Michael Payton and Eastern Illinois' Jeff Thorne. But he'd take Johnson over any of them.

"Jay's a better quarterback," Shedd said. "He's such a calm quarterback that if things go bad, he doesn't let it affect him.

"He has the ability to scramble and release the ball on the run. It seems like he always keeps the drive going.'

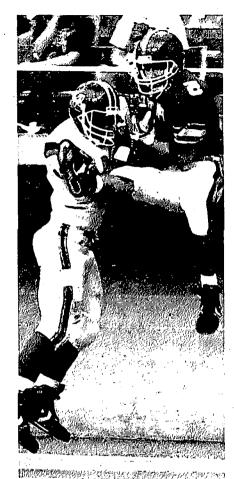
When this senior duo from the heartland isn't complimenting each other, it's creating headaches for the opposition. Since Shedd and Johnson assumed regular roles in the Panther attack as sophomores in 1990, Northern Iowa has won 19 of 25 games. Last year, the tandem helped the Panthers rank 10th in I-AA in scoring, averaging 33.3 points per contest.

The fast and fearless Shedd is the team's chief offensive weapon. He earned second-team All-America honors as a return specialist in 1990 and as a receiver last fall. During his career, he has averaged 20.8 yards each time he has touched the football, whether running back punts or kickoffs, catching passes or taking an occasional handoff in the backfield.

"You always look to get a guy like Kenny Shedd the ball any way you can," Northern Iowa Coach Terry Allen said.

That's exactly what Northern Iowa tried to do last year. As a return man, the 5-foot-9, 157-pound Shedd ran back 50 kicks for 791 yards and two touchdowns. He also caught 24 passes for a 27.6-yard average and seven touchdowns.

Shedd's impressive performance was a major reason why Northern Iowa won the Gateway Conference championship, reached the quarterfinals of the I-



Shedding some light: The fast and fearless Kenny Shedd is Northern Iowa's chief offensive weapon.

AA playoffs and finished with an 11-2 record. Another big reason was the heady play of Johnson.

"Jay is very intelligent," Allen said. "He very seldom puts you in a situation where he'll lose a football game for you. More times than not, he'll put you in a position where you can go out and win the game."

Since taking over the starting quarterback duties as a sophomore, the 6-2, 182-pound Johnson has completed 52,8 percent of his passes for 5,328 yards and 35 touchdowns. Last year, he completed 125 of 222 passes for 1,950 yards and 16 touchdowns with only six interceptions. Aside from his solid statistics, Johnson also possesses a strong desire to win.

"I can't stand losing," said Johnson, who ranked seventh among I-AA quarterbacks in passing efficiency last season. "That's the Number 1 thing with me. Every time I step on the field, I think we can win."

He's usually right.

- **NORTHERN IOWA**
- 2. SOUTHWEST MISSOURI ST. 3. WESTERN ILLINOIS
- 4. EASTERN ILLINOIS
- 5. ILLINOIS STATE
- 6. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
- 7. INDIANA STATE

ALL-GATEWAY TEAM

OFFENSE

- JUSTIN ROEBUCK, Southern Illinois, Sr.
- KENNY SHEDD, Northern Iowa, Sr.
- CHRIS NUSS, Northern Iowa, Sr.
- ROBERT EGIDI, Indiana State, Sr. DAN PURCELL, Eastern Illingis, Sr.
- BRAD FICHTEL, Eastern Illinois, Sr.
- MATT IRVIN, Southwest Missouri St., Sr.
- MIKE STRICKLAND, Southern Illinois, Jr.
- JAY JOHNSON, Northern Iowa, Sr.
- TOBY DAVIS, Illinois State, Sr.
- ANTHONY PEGUES, SW Missouri St., Jr.

DEFENSE

- Name, School, Class
- DYRRAH CHRISTON, Indiana State, Sr.
- CLINT CULLEN, Illinois State, Jr.
- CASEY SMITH, Northern Iowa, Jr.
- WILLIAM FREENEY, Northern Iowa, Sr.
- DERRICK LANE, Eastern Illinois, Sr.
- KEN McMILLAN, Western Illinois, Sr.
- RON MORAN, Southern Illinois, Sr.
- RODNEY HARRISON, Western III., Soph.
- SIMON NELSON, Northern lowa, Sr.
- ADRION SMITH, SW Missouri State, Jr. CLINT SMOTHERS, Southern Illinois, Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class

CAMERON BAIR, Illinois State, Sr.

STEVE KRIEGER, Indiana State, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Toby Davis, RB, Illinois State



DEFENSE: William Freeney, LB, Northern Iowa

and: us (c) (c)

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Cosch: Bob Spoo (28-29, 6 years). 1991 recard: 4-7. Gateway: 2-4/T5th. Key players: Edson Castillo, TB; Dan Dee, DT; Eric Dircks, S; Sean Drendel; S; Martin Ellens, SE; Brad Fichtel, C; Terrence Hickman, FL; Bill Korosoc, RB; Derrick Lane, LB; Ray McElroy, CB; Broc Montgom-ery, TB; Dan Purcell, OT; Mike Rummell, SE; Shannon

Sutton, CB; Jeff Thorne, QB.

Strengths: The passing game could be among the country's best, featuring quarterback Thorne and receiver Rummell. Offensive linemen Fichtel and Purcell are a solid pair to build around. The return of Castillo will ease the loss of Jamle Jones, who left Eastern Illinois as the Gateway's all-time leading rusher.

Weaknesses: Defensive depth is a concern, as are the

place-kicking and punting.

Outlook: Thorne and his sidekicks can help Eastern Illinois overcome a lot of obstacles if they can stay healthy and the defense can get them the ball. The Panthers will be tested by a rugged schedule that in-cludes trips to Marshall and Youngstown State.

Schedule: At Austin Peay State, Sept. 5; at Marshall, Sept. 12; Murray State, Sept. 19; at illinois State, Sept. 26; Southern Illinois, Oct. 3; Indiana State, Oct. 10; at Western Illinois, Oct. 17; at Southwest Missouri State, Oct. 24; at Youngstown State, Oct. 31; Northern Iowa, Nov. 7; Western Kentucky, Nov. 14. Nickname: Panthers.

Site: Charleston, III.

ILLINOIS STATE

Cosch: Jim Heacock (16-28, 4 years).
1991 record: 5-6. Gateway: 1-5/7th.
Key players: Cameron Bair, K/P; Elbert Betts, OT;
Brian Brown, TE; Darryl Brown, DB; Clint Cullen, DT;
Toby Davis, RB; Renaldo Gallagher, FL; Brent Haar,
C; Mike Lee, OG; Ritchie Thompson, RB; Dwayne
Walton, CB; Rob Wendlick, DT; Franky West, S; Mike Williams, LB; Adrian Wilson, QB.

Strengths: Traditionally a strong defensive team, IIlinois State should excel offensively with the return of nine starters in 1992. Davis is a superb running back, and quarterback Wilson led the league in total offense in '91. Bair is a good kicker and Gallagher is

a dangerous return man.

Werknesses: The defense lost six regulars. Cullen and Wendlick are quality defensive tackles, but the Redbirds will be green at the end, outside linebacker and

Outlook: If the offense reduces its 1991 turnover total of 25, it will be productive. But the young defense must mature if Illinois State has any hopes of being

competitive.

Schedule: Southwest State (Minn.), Sept. 5; at Northern Illinois, Sept. 12; at Indiana State, Sept. 19; Eastern Illinois, Sept. 26; at Northern Iowa, Oct. 3; at Youngstown State, Oct. 10; Southwest Missouri State, Oct. 17; Southern Illinois, Oct. 24; at Western Illinois, Oct. 31; Western Kentucky, Nov. 7; at Southeast Missouri State, Nov. 14.

Mickname: Redbirds.

Site: Normal, III.

INDIANA STATE

Cosch: Dennis Raetz (64-69-1, 12 years).

LOGGE: Dennis Haetz (64-69-1, 12 years).
1991 record; 5-6. Gateway: 2-4/T5th.
Key players: Kirk Christensen, TE; Dyrrah Christon,
NG; Demetrius Dowler, WR; Robert Egidi, OT; Matt
Egioff, LB; Von Ganaway, RB; Jack Hendershot, S;
Kip Hennelly, QB; Steve Krieger, P/K; Shawn Moore,
OG; Kenneth Mullen, S; Mike Nelson, LB; David Nicol,
FB; David Sharbaugh, OG; Michael Wilson, CB.
Strengths: For the first time in four years. Raetz

Strengths: For the first time in four years, Raetz opened spring practice with a quarterback who had started the previous fall. Hennelly won the Job mid-way through last season. He'll get protection from four linemen with starting experience, which means receiver Dowler should get a lot of action. Krieger is a dual kicking threat.

Weaknesses: Defense. The Sycamores have nine starting positions to fill, including two inside linebacker spots that featured the team's leading tackers. The secondary is suspect with only two experienced players returning. Replacing star running back Derrick Franklin will be difficult.

Cutlcok: Indiana State again plays a tough schedule,



Teby Davis, lilinois State

traveling to Oklahoma State and hosting I-AA champ Youngstown State. If the defense can develop confidence in those two tests, the Sycamores could sur-prise some teams in the Gateway. Otherwise, an

eighth consecutive losing season may be in store.
Schedels: At Oklahoma State, Sept. 5; at Western Kentucky, Sept. 12; Illinois State, Sept. 19; Lock Haven (Pa.), Sept. 26; Youngstown State, Oct. 3; at Eastern Illinois, Oct. 10; Glenville (W.Va.) State, Oct. 3; at Eastern Illinois, Oct. 10; Glenville (W.Va.) State, Oct. 3; at Eastern Illinois, Oct. 10; Glenville (W.Va.) 17; at Western Illinois, Oct. 24; Northern Iowa, Oct. 31; Southwest Missouri State, Nov. 14; at Southern Illinois, Nov. 21.

Nickrame: Sycamores: Site: Terre Haute, Ind.

NORTHERN IOWA

Coach: Terry Allen (27-9, 3 years). 1991 record: 11-2 (including 1-1 in I-AA playoffs). Gateway: 5-1/1st.

Key players: Andre Allen, LB; Peter Burns, LB; Tank

Rey pisyers: Andre Alien, LB; Peter Burns, LB; Iank Corner, RB; William Freeney, LB; Jay Johnson, QB; Steve Johnson, NT; Jason McCleary, CB; Tony Monroe, DE; Tim Mosley, WR/P; Simon Nelson, S; Chris Nuss, TE; Jason Reading, OG; Kenny Shedd, WR; Casey Smith, DE; Joseph Wallace, CB.

Strengths: Eight offensive starters return from a unit that has the versatility to control the half or strike that has the versatility to control the ball or strike suddenly. Quarterback Johnson and receiver Shedd are two of the best in I-AA. Eight starters, including standout Freeney, return from a defense that ranked fourth in the nation in '91.

Weaknesses: The Panthers will miss kicker Brian Mitchell. There isn't much depth at running back,

linebacker or on the offensive line.

Outlook: If Northern lowa stays hungry, avoids mul-tiple injuries, protects the ball and excels on special teams, it could win the national title.

Schedule: At McNeese State, Sept. 12; Idaho State, Sept. 19; at lowa State, Sept. 26; Illinois State, Oct. 3; at Southern Illinois, Oct. 17; Idaho, Oct. 24; at Indiana State, Oct. 31; at Eastern Illinois, Nov. 7; Western Illinois, Nov. 14; Southwest Missouri State, Nov. 21. One additional game had not yet been scheduled at deadline.

Hickness: Panthers. Site: Cedar Falls, la.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Bob Smith (11-22, 3 years; 28-48-1 overall, 7

Loaca: BOD Smith (11-22, 3 years; 26-48-1 overall, 7 years).
1991 record: 7-4. Gateway: 4-2/T2nd.
Key players: Greg Brown, RB; J.J. Chaney, CB; Scott Gabbert, OB; Joe Hay, DE; Jason Jakovich, OG; Yonel Jourdain, FB; Wayne Manu, DT; Ron Moran, LB; Anthony Perry, RB; Justin Roebuck, WR; Ed Senter, DE; Clint Smothers, S; Mike Strickland, OG; Billy Swain, WR; Scott Walker, CB.

Strengths: The offense is seasoned and battle-tested. Roebuck is an explosive receiver, and the backfield, paced by Perry, Jourdain and Brown, is deep and versatile. Defensively, the Salukis are solid in the secondary

Weakzesses: The defensive line must be rebuilt after

four regulars departed, and the kicking game is a question mark. Southern Illinois also must find backup help at quarterback.

Outlook: The Salukis must get stingy on defense. It will be especially important for Southern Illinois to defend the run better after yielding 221.5 yards per game in '91. Youth also must serve the Salukis. If the season had begun in April, only seven seniors would have started.

Schedule: Troy (Ala.) State, Sept. 5; Southeast Missouri State, Sept. 12; Austin Peay State, Sept. 19; at Arkansas State, Sept. 26; at Eastern Illinois, Oct. 3; Western Illinois, Oct. 10; Northern Iowa, Oct. 17; at Illinois State, Oct. 24; at Western Kentucky, Oct. 29; at Southwest Missouri State, Nov. 7; Indiana State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Salukis. Site: Carbondale, III.

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE

Coach: Jesse Branch (38-28-1, 6 years). 1991 record: 6-4-1. Gateway: 3-3/4th.

Key players: Shannon Bills, LB; Shumone Burnett, S; Bill Dulin, DE; Cameron Flemming, LB; Damon Frost, LB; Richard Grote, K; Kenny Hutchison, OG; Matt Irvin, OG; Stephen Levels, LB; Yancy McKnight, OG; Robert Nation, C; Anthony Pegues, RB; Mark Scott, DE; Adrion Smith, CB; Jonah White, FB. Strengths: Branch's flexbone offense has led the

league in rushing for seven straight seasons. Expect more of the same in '92. Irvin is a potential All-America guard. Another 10 experienced blockers want to help blow open holes for a stable of backs.

Weaknesses: The Bears must settle on a quarterback and develop a passing attack. The punting game is unproven and the return game needs upgrading. Defensively, Southwest Missouri State must replace eight starters, plus talented end Andrew Murray left the team.

Outlook: The option offense needs to give a remodeled defense time to grow by hanging onto the football. If the offense doesn't commit turnovers, the Bears could be playing for the league title at Northern Iowa

in the season finale.

Schedele: At McNeese State, Sept. 5; Washburn (Kan.), Sept. 12; North Texas, Sept. 19; Western Illinois, Oct. 3; at Tulsa, Oct. 10; at Illinois State, Oct. 17; Eastern Illinois, Oct. 24; Southern Illinois, Nov. 7; at Indiana State, Nov. 14; at Northern Iowa, Nov. 21. One additional game had not yet been scheduled at deadline.

Nickname: Bears Site: Springfield, Mo.

WESTERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Randy Ball (11-12-1, 2 years). 1991 record: 7-4-1 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs).

Gateway: 4-2/2nd.

Rey players: Tim Ardis, HB; Shane Brinton, DT; Jeff Bush, WR; Steve Decker, WR; Lance Earl, WR; Jim Hansen, OG; Rodney Harrison, S; Richard Hud-dleston, OG; Demeris Johnson, WR; Mario Malone, LB; Ken McMillan, LB; Jesse Morris, CB; Josh Moulden, TE; Marc Payton, CB; Steve Ross, WA; Don Sim-

Strangths: The passing game is in good hands with Simmons. He'll throw to Earl, Johnson and Bush, who combined for 72 catches and 11 touchdowns last season. That trio is joined by speedsters Ross and Decker; who are returning from injuries. Western illinois' schedule features seven home games.

Weaknesses: The Leathernecks must replace their top two rushers, and no lettermen return at either offensive tackle or center. Defensively, eight starters must be replaced from a group that ranked sixth in total defense in i-AA.

Outlook: The passing game may have to carry the of-fensive load while the running game develops. On defense, All-America candidate McMillan must provide leadership.

Schedule: Missouri Western, Sept. 5; at Sam Houston State, Sept. 12; Western Kentucky, Sept. 19; Central Florida, Sept. 26; at Southwest Missouri State, Oct. 3; at Southern Illinois, Oct. 10; Eastern Illinois, Oct. 17; Indiana State, Oct. 24; Illinois State, Oct. 31; Morgan State, Nov. 7; at Northern Iowa, Nov. 14. Nickname: Leathernecks. Site: Macomb, III.

Text by Doug Newhoff. '

Princeton's Elias gains attention, yards with outrageous persona

By DONNIE WEBB Syracuse Post-Standard

eith Elias knows how to draw attention to himself.

His decision to attend Princeton instead of Rutgers, Virginia or Boston College made news in many circles. These days, people can't help but look and point their finger at Elias when he takes off his helmet on the sideline and reveals his Mohawk haircut.

'When I met some of the alumni, it was like, 'Oh, my God, what's this kid's story?" " Elias said. "It's not just here, it's the whole Ivy League. . . . They would openly stare as if they hadn't

seen anything like that."

But Elias has been eliciting more than parting glances from the Brie-andcandelabra tailgaters in the Ivy League. Aside from his unique hair style, Elias has been jolting Ancient Eight fans right out of their wing tips with his slash-and-burn ability as a running back.

The former New Jersey High School Player of the Year rushed for 1,080 yards and 12 touchdowns and caught five passes for 66 yards and a touchdown in six freshman games in 1990. (The Ivy League won't permit freshmen to play varsity football until 1993). As a sophomore with the varsity last season, Elias gained 902 yards and scored 12 touchdowns in 10 gamesdespite sharing the running back posi-

But the 5-foot-11, 185-pound Elias' biggest accomplishment has been his ability to instill the team with a new at-

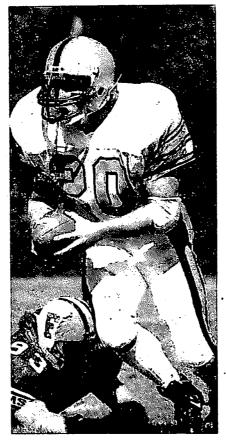
Elias has shaken up the Princeton program with an outrageous approach that encompasses Darth Vader looks, heavy-metal music and an arrogance that conveys unquestioned confidence. But his skull-and-crossbones T-shirts, black cowboy boots and overgrown sideburns don't exactly fit the mold of the Princeton man.

"I wouldn't say that I fit into the Princeton stereotype," said the junior from Lacey Township, N.J. "They're pretty conservative. Maybe some of the things I do might shock them."

They do, says Princeton Coach Steve Tosches, who politely calls Elias "a little bit of a free spirit.'

But for all of his dark eccentricities, Elias belongs at Princeton, Tosches said. He's even a welcome, contributing member of the academic community. The fact that he likes listening to the music of Megadeath and Slayer more than Bach and Beethoven doesn't mean Elias is any less of a student or football player.

"We don't have a kid who's any more



Tough guy: Princeton's Keith Elias maintains an image of toughness to remind everyone, especially himself, to be focused.

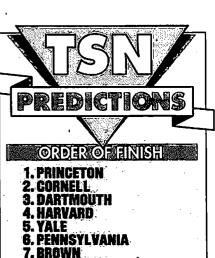
prepared mentally and physically," Tosches said. "We all respect him and have come to appreciate him. He lifts everybody up around him because he'll play up a level. This kid has a certain charisma about him that's contagious, and the players follow."

Elias maintains an image of toughness to remind everyone, especially himself, to be focused. For instance, wearing black clothing or letting his hair or sideburns grow long gives him a feeling of power, he said.

The look-mean-feel-mean persona seems to work for Elias. When he says he thinks of himself as a warrior, he's not kidding. He's always looking for an edge because he knows the environment at Princeton isn't conducive to barbaric thinking.

"Princeton has a way of dulling your animal instincts, dulling those violent, aggressive instincts," Elias said. "I'm a little more resistant to those changes."

Elias believes that so much has been made out of his tough-guy image at Princeton that it has become distracting. He's even threatening to ditch it this fall. But don't count on it.



ATTEN AND TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class MIKE JAMIN, Cornell, Sr. MICHAEL LERCH, Princeton, Sr. JOHN MASSY, Cornell, Sr.

8. COLUMBIA

- LANCE BRACKEE, Dartmouth, Sr. CHRIS THEISS, Princeton, Sr.
- TROY THOMPSON, Cornell, Sr. BART NEWMAN, Yale, Sr.
- SCOTT READE, Cornell, Sr.
- JAY FIELDER, Dartmouth, Jr.
- KEITH ELIAS, Princeton, Jr.
- SCOTT OLIARO, Cornell, Sr.

DEFENSE

Name, School, Class Pos. DAVE BETTEN, Pennsylvania, Sr.

BRIAN KAZAN, Princeton, Jr.

ERIK LEE, Yale, Sr.

JEFF WOODRING, Cornell, Sr.

AARON HARRIS, Princeton, Sr.

DES WERTHMAN, Columbia, Sr.

CHRIS ZINGO, Cornell, Jr.

RICK BRITTON, Brown, Sr.

JASON FELL, Dartmouth, Jr.

KEVIN ROBINSON, Columbia, Sr.

ROBERT SANTOS, Harvard, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class

DENNIS DURKIN, Dartmouth, Sr.

ROB SIMS, Pennsylvania, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Keith **RB**, Princeton



DEFENSE: Des Werthman, LB, Columbia

WM GLARTS 7/113/12/11

BROWN

Coach: Mickey Kwiatkowski (3-17, 2 years; 71-44

overall, 11 years).

1991 record: 1-9. lvy: 1-6/7th.

Key players: Michael Adams, C; Jeff Barrett, QB; Shawn Birken, DL; Rick Britton, DB/P; Brett Brown, RB; Chris Cady, WB; Killu Davis, DB; MacKenzle Davis, DL; Chris Gordon, LB; Rene Ovalle, WB; Bruce Smith, RB; Nate Taylor, WR; Mike Youssaf, LB

Stituting the Bears spread-T flex offense drives opponents nuts and scoreboards haywire. Brown is an underrated back who complements the lvy's most explosive passing attack well. Gordon is a solid line-backer. A fine 1991 freshman class moves up.

backer. A line 1991 freshman class moves up.

Werknesses: The defense last year was atrocious.
Brown gave up an average of 503 yards and 35
points in its seven league games. There is a lot of inexperience on both sides of the ball.

experience on both sizes of the ball.

Outlock: This downtrodden program is going nowhere
until the defense improves. The Bears could start
eight sophomores on defense this year, but will the
results be any different? It's doubtful.

Settsful: Yale, Sept. 19; at Bucknell, Sept. 26; at William & Mary, Oct. 3; at Princeton, Oct. 10; Lehigh,
Oct. 17; Penn, Oct. 24; at Cornell, Oct. 31; at Harvard,

New 7. Destructs.

lov. 7; Dartmouth, Nov. 14; at Columbia, Nov. 21. Mickneme: Bears.

Site: Providence, R.I.

COLUMBIA

Coach: Ray Tellier (3-27, 3 years; 24-53-1 overall, 8

years). 1991 record: 1-9. lvy: 1-7/8th.

Ney players: Chad Andrzejewski, QB; Rick Brenders, LB; John Coughlin, QG; Jim Daine, DE; Jason Doolittle, QB; Joe Hill, S; Gary Kasprzak, DT; Dennis Lafferty, WR; Kevin Robinson, DB; Mike Sardo, WR; Matt Streem, QG/C; Jason Tarbart, C; Des Werthman, LB. Strugths: Werthman is the lvy League's best definded sive player. He and Robinson lead a unit that will be more experienced and quite a bit bigger in the trenches than it was a year ago. Four receivers who combined for more than 100 catches also return.

componed for more than 100 catches also feturn.

Weakusses: The Lions are s-l-o-o-o-w, particularly at the skill positions. Both lines are inexperienced.

Outlook: Tellier says it's time for the Lions to no longer be satisfied with just being competitive, but to win more games. To that end, he has recruited better players. Still, it's hard to envision the Lions finishing anywhere but the basement.

Setricula: Harvard, Sept. 19; at Fordham, Sept. 26; Colgate, Oct. 3; Bucknell, Oct. 10; at Pennsylvania, Oct. 17; at Yale, Oct. 24; Princeton, Oct. 31; at Dartmouth, Nov. 7; Cornell, Nov. 14; Brown, Nov. 21. Mickeyme: Lions.

Site: New York

CORNELL

CORNELL

Ceach: Jim Hofher (12-8, 2 years).
1991 record: 5-5. Ivy: 4-3/T4th.

Key players: Will Appling, CB; Ryan Blattenberger, S;
Pete Case, FB (RS/neck); Mike Cochrane, K; Steve
Haggerty, FB; Mike Jamin, WR; Bill Lazor, QB; John
Massy, TE; Scott Oliaro, TB (RS/hamstring); Scott
Reade, QG; Matt Speicher, TB; Troy Thompson, C;
Jeff Woodring, DE; Chris Zingo, LB.

Strengths: Woodring, Zingo, Appling and Blattenberger are impact players on a unit that led the
ivy League in rushing, scoring and total defense last
fall. Lazor is an up-and-coming quarterback who led
the Ivy in total offense despite not making his first
start until the fifth game. The return of Oliaro and
Case, both of whom missed last season with injuries,
should help diversify the pro-1 offense.

Case, both of whom missed last season with injuries, should help diversify the pro-1 offense.

Weaknesses: Only Columbia and Penn averaged fewer points per game in the league in '91. This team desperately needs a good fullback to take some pressure off Oliaro. A good punter wouldn't hurt, either.

Osticak: The pieces are in place for Cornell to make a serious run at the lvy League crown. Even the schedule—which has league powers Princeton and Dartmouth coming to lithaca—favors the Bio Red. If

schedule—which has league powers Princeton and Dartmouth coming to Ithaca—favors the Big Red. If this team stays healthy and gets out of the blocks better than it did a year ago, watch out.

Schedule: Princeton, Sept. 19; Lehigh, Sept. 26; Lafayette, Oct. 3; at Harvard, Oct. 10; at Colgate, Oct. 17; Dartmouth, Oct. 24; Brown, Oct. 31; at Yale, Nov.

7; at Columbia, Nov. 14; Pennsylvania, Nov. 21.

Mickeame: Big Red. Site: Ithaca, N.Y.



Scott Cliaro, Cornell

DARTMOUTH

Coach: John Lyons (first year as head coach). 1991 record: 7-2-1. lvy: 6-0-1/1st.

Hay I resure: /-2-1. Ivy: 6-U-1/Tst.

Key players: Lance Brackee, OT; Matt Brzica, WR/P;
Dennis Durkin, K; Jason Fell, DB; Jay Fledler, OB;
Greg Hoffmeister, TB; Mike Holobetz, DB; Gerry LaMontagne, OT; Neal Martin, FB; George Neos, LB;
Mike Phillips, LB; Sean Riley, NG; Russ Torres, LB.

Strengths: The elevation of Lyons from defensive
hackfield coach to head coach lands contains to backfield coach to head coach lends continuity to

the program. Fledler, the league's top sophomore in '91, is a dynamic passer. Fell is the best player in a deep, experienced secondary.

Weaknesses: The defense is greener than the school colors, with only two starters returning from last year's front seven. There's also only one experienced offensive lineman back to protect Fiedler. And there's no one to replace Al Rosier, the leading rush-

er in I-AA (143.2 yards per game). Outlook: The Big Green is shooting for its third straight by title. The loss of six all-league players

makes the job tougher, but not impossible.

Schadule: Penn, Sept. 19; at New Hampshire, Sept. 26;
Bucknell, Oct. 3; at Holy Cross, Oct. 10; Yale, Oct. 17;
at Cornell, Oct. 24; at Harvard, Oct. 31; Columbia, Nov. 7; at Brown, Nov. 14; at Princeton, Nov. 21. Kiskname: Big Green.

Site: Hanover, N.H.

HARVARD

Coach: Joe Restic (111-83-6, 21 years). 1991 record: 4-5-1, Ivy: 4-2-1/3rd. Key players: Phil Furse, DT; Mike Giardi, QB; Monte Giese, LB; Mark Hall, K; Mike Hill, FB; Robb Hirsch, RB; Kendrick Joyce, RB; Jeff Landry, OG; Colby Maher, SE; Chris Pillsbury, S; James Reddinger, DE; Robert Santos, CB; Liam Sullivan, DT. Strengths: Glardi, Hirsch and Maher are talented

players who supply firepower on offense. The sec-ondary is solid with Pillsbury and Santos. Hall has a powerful leg, as his 50-yard field goal against Dart-mouth last season would attest.

Weaksesses: Replacements must be found for seven starters on defense, including two at linebacker and two in the secondary. The offensive line is a big question mark.

Outlook: Expectations are high in Cambridge. History proves that when Restic has the offensive tools to work with, the Crimson has a good season. If the problems on the offensive line are resolved, Glardi's

Schodule: At Columbia, Sept. 19; William & Mary, Sept. 26; at Holy Cross, Oct. 3; Cornell, Oct. 10; at Lafayette, Oct. 17; at Princeton, Oct. 24; Dartmouth, Oct. 31; Brown, Nov. 7; at Pennsylvania, Nov. 14; Yale, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Crimson Site: Cambridge, Mass.

PENNSYLVANIA

Coach: Al Bagnoli (first year; 86-19 overall, 10

years).
1991 record: 2-8. lvy: 2-5/6th.
Key players: Michael Baker, WR; Andy Berlin, LB;
David Betten, DE; Odin Brutsche, OL; Tom Gibbs, DB; Maceo Grant, DB; Jim McGeehan, OB; Nick Morris, QB; Ako Mott, RB; Sundiata Rush, RB; Rob Sims, P; Erick Trombley, OL; David Vernon, DL.

Strengths: The Quakers have a good cast of defensive players with Betten, Grant and Gibbs. Sims is a marvelous punter. Rush and McGeehan are nice players

to retool an offense around.

Weaknesses: Bagnoli got a late start in evaluating his players after taking over as coach January 2. One thing it didn't take him long to discover was that this team struggles to score points.

Outlook: Despite last season's 2-8 record, Bagnoli doesn't believe the situation at Penn is hopeless. The Quakers lost four league games by six points or less and ended the year with an upset win over Cornell. Bagnoli wants to open up the offense and make his bagnoli wants to open up the offense and make his defense more pressure-oriented. If the offense ever gets moving, things could turn around in a hurry. Schadule: At Dartmouth, Sept. 19; Colgate, Sept. 26; at Fordham, Oct. 3; William & Mary, Oct. 10; Columbia, Oct. 17; at Brown, Oct. 24; Yale, Oct. 31; at Princeton, Nov. 7; Harvard, Nov. 14; at Cornell, Nov.

Nickname: Quakers. Site: Philadelphia.

PRINCETON

Coach: Steve Tosches (30-19-1, 5 years).
1991 record: 8-2. Ivy: 5-2/2nd.
Key players: Peter Balley, FB; Chris Belswenger, TE;
Gene DeMorat, LB; Keith Ducker, S; Keith Elias, RB;
Erick Hamilton, RB; Aaron Harris, LB; Reggie Harris,
DT; Brian Kazan, DE; Michael Lerch, WR; J.C. Stilley,
OG; Chris Theiss, OT; Steve Tufillaro, WR.

Strengths: Elias and Hamilton form the top tailback tandem in the league. Lerch is a premier receiver. Harris is a dominating linebacker on a talented, ornery defense. Both lines have a lot of experience.

Weaknesses: For all its firepower and talent, the Ti-gers enter the season without an established quar-terback, it can't be too hard handing off to Elias and Hamilton, but someone must step forward to do it. The kicking game is shaky at best.

Outlook: This is the team to beat. The Tigers' rushing attack can carry them a long way, but it's their de-fense that might carry them to only their second lvy

title in 20 years. Schsdule: At Cornell, Sept. 19; Lafayette, Sept. 26; at Lehigh, Oct. 3; Brown, Oct. 10; at Holy Cross, Oct. 17; Harvard, Oct. 24; at Columbia, Oct. 31; Pennsylvania, Nov. 7; at Yale, Nov. 14; Dartmouth, Nov. 21. Hickneme: Tigers.

Site: Princeton, N.J.

YALE

Coach: Carmen Cozza (162-86-5, 27 years). 1991 record: 6-4. lvy: 4-3/T4th.

Rey playtrs: Fred Howard, DT; Jeff Kenney, LB; Erlk Lee, DT; Mark McKane, LB; Bart Newman, OG; Dave Sheronas, FB; Craig Vickery, LB; Andy Walker, OT. Strengths: Tackles Lee and Howard anchor a strong defensive line. The linebackers, led by Kenney, McKane and Vickery, are solld as well. Team captain Sheronas is a fine fullback.

Weaknesses: A young secondary figures to be tested early by passing teams Brown and Holy Cross. No proven quarterback or tailback has stepped forward to succeed Nick Crawford and Chris Kouri, respec-tively. Kickers are needed, too.

Outlook: The Yale offense has relied primarily on the running game in recent years and, without an established quarterback, doesn't figure to become Air Cozza in '92, either. Still, if a questionable secondary proves it can cover, defense might land this team in the Ivy's first division.

Schadula: At Brown, Sept. 19; Holy Cross, Sept. 26; at Connecticut, Oct. 3; Fordham, Oct. 10; at Dartmouth, Oct. 17; Columbia, Oct. 24; at Penn, Oct. 31; Cornell, Nov. 7; Princeton, Nov. 14; at Harvard, Nov. 21. Nicknames: Elis, Bulldogs.

Site: New Haven, Conn.

Text by Donnie Webb.

William Carroll's interceptions energize Florida A&M's defense

By DAVID LEE SIMMONS Tallahassee Democrat

he only way William Carroll knows how to do things is in bunches.

During his career, Florida A&M's free safety has picked off two passes in a game twice and has grabbed a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference-recordtying four interceptions in another contest. Additionally, Carroll set a school record with nine interceptions in 1990, and he picked off eight passes last sea-

With performances like that, it's no wonder the senior needs just one interception to tie the school's all-time record (22) and seven to tie the Division I-AA career record (28).

The 6-foot, 180-pound All-America credits his knack for interceptions to an energy level that made him a challenge for his mother to raise while growing up in Mobile, Ala.

"It (high energy) gives me an extra boost on that first step," said Carroll, who often is seen on the sidelines during practice running around in little circles. "You have this thing inside you that says, 'Boom!' It's crazy. You've just got to be able to do it."

And Carroll can do it on the field, although his coaches sometimes have trouble keeping him under control.

"He was playing with reckless abandon early in the year," said Florida A&M Coach Ken Riley, who played defensive back in the National Football League for 15 years. "He was trying to do too much to compensate for some injured players. But he's playing under control a lot more now. He knows the defense better.

"He has the range, he has the jumping ability and he has the peripheral vision. And he knows how to get a good jump on the ball."

Controlling Carroll is nothing new to his mother, Helen. She had a full-time job keeping William and his brother, Chris, in line when they were growing up. His father, who died of cancer late in 1990, saw to it that his boys developed an interest in jazz music. But at times, the boys didn't seem to appreciate it.

On one occasion, the two youngsters were caught playing "Frisbee" in the garage with their father's prized jazz record collection.

"We put a stop to that as soon as we discovered it," Helen Carroll said. 'They did all kinds of stuff. One time, I heard a lot of noises like Tarzan or something, and I looked up and saw William jump off the second story of our house.

'I'm proud of William, but there are times when you've got to calm him down.'



Ball hawk: Florida A&M's William Carroll needs just one interception to tie the school's all-time record and seven to tie the Division I-AA career record.

William and his brother calmed down long enough to absorb their father's love for jazz, with William learning how to play the piano and Chris the drums. In fact, Chris is a member of Florida A&M's prestigious Marching 100 Band.

The two brothers' lives were changed forever in the fall of 1990, when their father began losing his battle with cancer. Throughout the '90 football season, William drove nearly four hours from Tallahassee to Mobile to be with his ailing father.

Carroll's father died before Florida A&M's season finale against archrival Bethune-Cookman. Carroll, however, returned immediately from the funeral to attend practice. With plenty of pentup energy in store, he proceeded to pick off a pass against Bethune-Cookman as the Rattlers won, 42-20. It was his fourth interception in November.

Carroll carried that momentum into the '91 season, picking off four passes in the fourth game of the year, a 43-7 win over Tennessee State.

"That's a DB's dream," Carroll said. "Other than going into the end zone, having four interceptions is an incredible feeling. I was ecstatic. I was in the clouds for a week."



- 1. NORTH CAROLINA A&T
- 2. DELAWARE STATE
- 3. FLORIDA A&M
- 4. SOUTH CAROLINA STATE
- **6. BETHUNE-COCKMAN**
- 7. MORGAN STATE

ALLAMBA'C TEAM

OFFENSE

- Hame, School, Class
- GARY HARRELL, Howard, Jr.
- TERRY MICKENS, Florida A&M, Jr.
- HERBERT SHULER, South Carolina St., Sr.
- ERIC FUNDERBURK, S. Carolina St., Sr.
- KWAME KILPATRICK, Florida A&M, Sr.
- WALLY WILLIAMS, Florida A&M, Sr. TIM GREEN, Florida A&M, Sr.
- ROBERT HOLLEY, North Carolina A&T, Jr.
- J.D. HALL, Bethune-Cookman, Sr.
- CHUCK DUFFEY, Florida A&M, Sr.
- ANTONIO MACKEY, South Carolina St., Jr.

DEFENSE

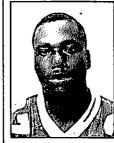
- Name, School, Class
- MARCUS LAMPKIN, Florida A&M, Sr.
- DAMIEN MOSES, South Carolina State, Sr.
- LeROY THOMPSON, Delaware State, Sr.
- EAION CONNOR, Florida A&M, Sr.
- LEEVARY COVINGTON, N.C. A&T. Jr.
- JEREMY FAULKNER, S. Carolina St., Sr.
- JAMES REDDING, Delaware State, Sr.
- ALONZA BARNETT, N.C. A&T, Sr.
- WILLIAM CARROLL, Florida A&M, Sr.
- BRIAN RANDALL, Delaware State, Jr. TIM WATSON, Howard, Sr.
 - **SPECIALISTS**

- Pos. Name. School. Class
- JON JENSON, Delaware State, Soph.
- CHUCK POPLOS, Delaware State, Soph.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: QB, Bethune-Cookman



DEFENSE: William Carroll, S, Florida A&M

WIDDER SOFTER G HENVYN G : V

BETHUNE-COOKMAN

Cosch: Sylvester Collins (first year as head coach).
1991 record: 4-6. MEAC: 3-3/73rd.
Key players: Anthony Bingham, C; Devon Cole, TE;
Darren Culmer, RB; Kelth Griffin, OT; J.D. Hall, QB;
Mark Harrington, S; Edmund Lewis, OG; Kevin
McLean, RB; Leotis McNell, S; Reggie Roberts, LB;
George Spencer, WR; Paul Thurmond, K; James Wig-

Sirengits: Hall will be the star quarterback in the MEAC this season. He'll be protected by three returning starters on the line. The kicking game returns intact, and Bethune-Cookman always has a

turns intact, and betruine-Cookman always has a bountiful supply of receivers and return specialists. Westresses: Even though the Wildcats have some promising receivers, they'll be hard pressed to replace three who ranked atop the MEAC. The loss of Walt Simmons weakens the defensive line. Once again, youth and inexperience will dominate the Be-thune-Cookman roster.

Outlook: It will be hard for the untested Collins to accomplish more than his predecessor, Larry Little, considering the Wildcats have the same amount of funding and possibly less talent. Playing MEAC games at South Carolina State and North Carolina A&T won't help

Ret won their.

Settadel: Savannah (Ga.) State (at Jacksonville, Fla.), Sept. 5; at Central Florida, Sept. 12; Delaware State (at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.), Sept. 19; Samford, Sept. 26; at Howard, Oct. 10; at South Carolina State, Oct. 17; Albany (Ga.) State, Oct. 24; at North Carolina A&T, Oct. 31; Norfolk (Va.) State, Nov. 14; at Morgan State, Nov. 21; Florida A&M (at Tampa,

Fla.), Nov. 28. Nickname: Wildcats Sile: Daytona Beach, Fla.

DELAWARE STATE

Coash: William Collick (52-19, 7 years). 1991 record: 9-2. MEAC: 5-1/T1st.

Rey playars: Phil Anderson, WB; Stanley Burris, OG; Neon Chapman, TE; Jon Jenson, K; Craig Johnson, DE; Erik Jones, OB; Marc Marshall, CB; Shawn Mc-Clain, DT; James Moore, LB; Derrick Neal, SE; Chuck Poplos, P; Brian Randall, S; James Redding, LB; Dak-iel Shorts, HB; LeRoy Thompson, DE.

Strengths: Seven returning starters buoy the defense for the defending co-champions. End Thompson recorded a school-record 16 sacks last season. Kicker Jenson and punter Poplos earned all-league honors last year. Quarterback Jones should rebound after off-season shoulder surgery.

Weaknesses: With only five starters returning, the offense could be as weak as the defense is strong. Guard Burris is the only returning starter on the line, while Jones is the only returning skill-position start-

Outlook: Since this figures to be a down year in the MEAC, the Hornets could challenge for the title, even though their offense appears shaky. The only thing going against Collick is history, as he almost always wins or shares the MEAC title in odd-numbered

wins or shares the MEAC title in odd-numbered years only. That could change this season. Schedule: Cheyney, Pa. (at Wilmington, Del.), Sept. 5; at Youngstown State, Sept. 12; Bethune-Cookman (at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.), Sept. 19; at Grambling State, Sept. 26; Towson State, Oct. 10; Florida A&M, Oct. 17; at Morgan State, Oct. 24; South Carolina State, Oct. 31; North Carolina A&T, Nov. 7; at Liberty, Nov. 14; at Howard, Nov. 21.
Nickarms: Hornets.

Site: Dover, Del.

FLORIDA A&M

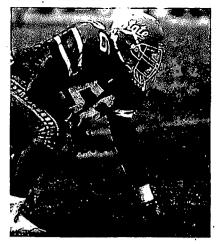
Cozch: Kenneth J. Riley (36-28-2, 6 years). 1991 record: 6-5. MEAC: 3-3/T3rd. Key players: Keith Brown, QB; Tim Camron, K; William

Carroll, S; Eaion Connor, LB; Tyrone Davis, WR; Chuck Duffey, RB; Tim Green, OG; Kwame Kilpatrick, OT; Marcus Lampkin, NT; Terry Mickens, WR; Kenny Riley, CB; Leon Skillens, OG; Keino Taylor, CB; James

Thurman, WR; Wally Williams, C. Strugths: Florida A&M has the makings of a great of-fense. The offensive line, a weak link in '91, should

be improved. Carroll is a standout safety.

Weaknesses: Someone must step up and take command at quarterback in the absence of departed all-star Tony Ezell. A shift of focus toward the running game could take pressure off whoever calls the sig-



LeRoy Thompson, Delaware State

nals. Though there is talent throughout the defense, the depth is questionable. The kicking game lacks consistency

Collision: The Rattlers underachieved last year with an experienced quarterback and an easy schedule. This year, there is no experience at quarterback and Florida A&M plays a tough schedule, traveling to Georgia Southern and Miami (Fla.). That the MEAC should be weak this year is the Rattlers' only hope for a high

Schedule: At Georgia Southern, Sept. 5; South Caro-lina State (at Jacksonville, Fla.), Sept. 12; at Miami (Fla.), Sept. 19; Tennessee State (at Atlanta), Sept. 26; Howard, Oct. 3; North Carolina A&T (at Orlando, Fla.), Oct. 10; at Delaware State, Oct. 17; Morgan State, Oct. 31; at Southern, Nov. 7; Grambling State, Nov. 14; Bethune-Cookman (at Tampa, Fla.), Nov.

Nickname: Rattiers. Site: Tallahassee, Fla.

HOWARD

Coach: Steve Wilson (16-17, 3 years). 1991 record: 2-9. MEAC: 1-5/T6th.

Key players: Robert Carpenter, OG; Michael Caswell, WR; Brooke Cawley, C; Neal Downing, CB; Rupert Grant, FB; Nigel Greene, OT; Gary Harrell, WR; Ryan Heathcock, FB; Terrill Hill, OB; George Humes, WR; Tony Hyman, WR; Ransom Miller, DE; David Sierra, TE; James Spears, DE; Tim Watson, S.

Strengths: An experienced offensive line and good re-ceivers, led by Harrell (who also is a shifty return man) and Humes, give the Bison some hope for a turnaround. The defensive line is solid, too.

Weaknesses: A quarterback must be found, the kicking game is horrld and the running backs must improve on last year's 3.1-yard average per carry. The secondary lost all but one starter, so the pressure will be on the line.

Butlook: The honeymoon is over for Howard alum Wilson, who wowed everyone in his first season with an 8-3 record but now is under the gun. Don't expect

the Bison to finish any better than they did in '91.

Schedule: At Morehouse (Ga.), Sept. 5; Alabama A&M (at Los Angeles), Sept. 12; Cheyney, Pa. (at Philadelphia), Sept. 19; Alcorn State, Sept. 26; at Florida A&M, Oct. 3; Bethune-Cookman, Oct. 10; North Carolina A&T, Oct. 24; Bowle (Md.) State, Oct. 31; at South Carolina State, Nov. 7; Morgan State, Nov. 14; Delaware State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Bison. Site: Washington, D.C.

MORGAN STATE

Coach: Ricky Diggs (1-10, 1 year). 1991 record: 1-10. MEAC: 1-5/T6th. Key players: James Arnold, RB; Donte Carter, WR; Eddie Hill, CB; Pierre Hubbard, NG; Earnest Johnson, OG; Dupree Mixon, WR (tranfer/Toledo); Michael Moore, QB/WR; Tony Moore, WR (transfer/Toledo); Jeffrey Myers, OT; Orlando Persell, OB; James Pitt, S; Mario Piers, S. Ma Mario Rivers, S; Matthew Steeple, DT; Craig Still, OT; Cedric Thomas, OT.

Strengths: Morgan State, which once boasted a proud tradition, has been the MEAC's doormat for years. The Bears' run-and-shoot offense showed signs of improvement toward the end of last year, thanks to the emergence of quarterback Persell.

Wesknesses: Diggs' troops will be young, and the squad will lack depth. Morgan State, which ranked 88th among 89 I-AA schools in total offense last season, can't afford to turn the ball over 40 times, as it did in '91.

Outlook: The Bears appear to remain in hibernation. If the underrated defense doesn't have to play for long stretches, it could surprise some people. But don't

stretches, it could surprise some people. But don't expect much from Morgan State—except losses.

Schedule: At Liberty, Sept. 12; at North Carolina A&T, Sept. 19; Johnson C. Smith (N.C.), Sept. 26; at Buffalo, Oct. 3; at South Carolina State, Oct. 10; Fayetteville (N.C.) State, Oct. 17; Delaware State, Oct. 24; at Fiorida A&M, Oct. 31; at Western Illinois, Nov. 7; at Howard, Nov. 14; Bethune-Cookman, Nov. 21. Micknama: Bears. Site: Baltimore.

NORTH CAROLINA A&T

Coach: Bill Hayes (25-20, 4 years: 114-60-2 overall.

1991 record: 9-3. MEAC: 5-1/T1st. Key glayers: Alonza Barnett, CB; Greg Brown, NG; Leevary Covington, LB; Sam Davis, S; Rodney Edwards, LB; Robert Holley, OG; Pat Horne, OT; Richard

Lide, C; Tommie McKoy, S; Adrian Pearson, SE; Barry Turner, RB; James White, RB. Strengths: A strong line and running back corps head a group of eight returning starters on offense. McKoy, Davis and Barnett pace a deep secondary.

Weaknesses: In the Aggies' wing-T offense, the quarterback must make split-second decisions. That makes finding a replacement for Connell Maynor critical. Losing three starting defensive linemen could leave the Aggies vulnerable to rushing teams. North Carolina A&T is thin at linebacker, receiver and tight end.

Outlook: Despite their need for a quarterback and questions on defense, the Aggies have enough re-turning talent to win the MEAC.

Schedule: At North Carolina Central, Sept. 5; Winston-Salem (N.C.) State, Sept. 12; Morgan State, Sept. 19; Liberty, Sept. 26; at Noriolk (Va.) State, Oct. 3; at Florida A&M, Oct. 10; at Howard, Oct. 24; Bethune-Cookman, Oct. 31; at Delaware State, Nov. 7; at Appalachian State, Nov. 14; South Carolina State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Aggies. Site: Greensboro, N.C.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

Coach: Willie Jeffries (66-29-4, 9 years: 108-93-6 overall, 19 years). 1991 record: 7-4, MEAC: 3-3/T3rd

1991 recore: 7-4, MEAC: 3-3/13rd.

Key playsra: Eugene Brown, DB; Griando Brown, OL; Carnell Carter, OL; Richard Dickerson, P/DB; Jeremy Faulkner, LB; Eric Funderburk, OT; Vernon Grier, DB; Darius Hadley, DB; Rodney Hunter, WR; Todd Logan, DB; Antonio Mackey, RB; Marvin Marshall, QB; Damien Moses, DL; Herbert Shuler, TE; Freddle Solomon, WR; Matt Young, K.

Strengths: The Buildogs return all of their offensive starters, including a good set of receivers. Standout Mackey heads a stellar ground attack that will run behind a stout line. The secondary is strong.

Wealnesses: Despite good backs and the return of nine starters, the defense needs help. The line and linebacker positions lack depth and experience. Replacing end Robert Porcher, the MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, and free safety Ricky Hill will be impossible.

Outlook: The Bulldogs must hope their offense can carry the load. If the defense develops, South Carolina State could challenge for the MEAC title. But a

middle-of-the-pack finish seems likely.

Schedule: At Newberry (S.C.), Sept. 5; at Florida
A&M, Sept. 12; Southern (at Atlanta), Sept. 19;
Jackson State (at Columbia, S.C.), Oct. 3; Morgan
State, Oct. 10; Bethune-Cookman, Oct. 17; North Carolina Central, Oct. 24; at Delaware State, Oct. 31; Howard, Nov. 7; at Charleston Southern, Nov. 14; at North Carolina A&T, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Buildogs. Site: Orangeburg, S.C.

Text by David Lee Simmons.

Markus Thomas is on the verge of becoming EKU's No. 1 rusher

By JIM TERHUNE Louisville Courier-Journal

or all the marvelous things Markus Thomas did on the football field last fall, he had an unusual thing happen to him once the season ended.

Thomas, a tailback at Eastern Kentucky, was voted Offensive Player of the Year in the Ohio Valley Conference and was named a Division I-AA thirdteam All-America after rushing for 1,699 yards in the Colonels' 12-2 season. Yet, because of the presence of Middle Tennessee State's Joe Campbell and Eastern Kentucky teammate Tim Lester, Thomas was only a second-team All-OVC selection.

'He's one of the best to ever play here," said Coach Roy Kidd, who is entering his 29th season at Eastern Kentucky. "He can hit the home run on you, and I've only had one other player (Terence Thompson) who was a threat to go all the way on every play."

Thomas is the latest, and perhaps the best, in a long line of outstanding Colonel tailbacks. Postseason awards notwithstanding, the 5-foot-10, 195-pound Thomas had a terrific year in 1991. He averaged a school-record seven yards per carry and needs only 498 yards to break Elroy Harris' school career rushing record of 4,555 yards. However, All-OVC offensive linemen Carl Satterly. Mike Roth and Tim Wimbley won't be back this fall, which might make Thomas' pursuit of the record and another big season for the Colonels tougher to achieve.

"More eyes will be on me, more than last year when we kept the defenses offbalance with Tim," Thomas said. "Everybody's saying, 'What are you going to do now with the line gone?' It should definitely be interesting.'

Thomas has worked hard since the end of last season to prepare himself for this one. With Lester gone, it wouldn't be surprising to see Thomas carrying the ball 30 times in some games (up from an average of 17 pergame in 1991). To that end, Thomas trained with the Colonels' track team to improve his speed and endurance.

'I worked on my explosion," Thomas said. "Three 100s, then 200s, 100s again and a 300. All-out every time, with a sixto-seven-minute rest in between. I thought it'd be easy, but it about killed me.'

Thomas also would like to add about 10 pounds of muscle to help ward off opposing defenders.

"I could stand to be a little bit bigger, but I'm not going to rush it," Thomas said. "Those aren't really my goals. Maybe the books—I've got a chance to graduate in December—winning the



Tradition: Markus Thomas is the latest, and perhaps the best, in a long line of outstanding Eastern Kentucky tailbacks.

OVC championship, then go for the national title again."

Ah, the national championship. The Colonels have won two I-AA titles and had two runner-up finishes in the last 13 seasons. They've won more games than any other Division I-AA team since the division was created in 1978, but they haven't won a national title since 1982.

Clearly, his team's success this year would do nothing but enhance Thomas' National Football League prospects.

"The pros would be crazy if they don't get in here and look at him," Kidd said. "But he'll have to run a great 40-yard dash. That's big to them. He could do a 4.6 easily."

Said Thomas: "I hear from others that scouts have come in and asked about me. I'd like to (be drafted) early-who wouldn't?-but it's not something I think about a lot.

"But the thought that you dream about it in high school, then look up today and it's reality, well, that's kind of scary."

But not as scary as it will be this fall for opponents who will be trying to tackle Thomas in the open field. 🖿



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE

2. EASTERN KENTUCKY **TENNESSEE STATE**

MOREHEAD STATE

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE

TENNESSEE TECH

7. MURRAY STATE 8. AUSTIN PEAY STATE

9. UT-MARTIN

AULOHIO VAILLEY TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class

VINCE PARKS, Middle Tennessee, Sr.

PATRICK ROBINSON, Tennessee State, Sr. STEVE DARK, Middle Tennessee State, Sr.

STEVE McADOO, Middle Tennessee, Sr.

ROBERT MOORMAN, Tennessee State, Jr. BRANDON NORMAN, SE Missouri St., Sr.

ROGER BROWN, UT-Martin, Sr. TRACY RUSSELL, Tennessee Tech, Soph.

JAMES WADE, Tennessee State, Sr.

DAVE COX, Murray State, Jr. MARKUS THOMAS, Eastern Kentucky, Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos. Hama, School, Class

CHAD BRATZKE, Eastern Kentucky, Jr.

MIKE CALDWELL, Middle Tennessee, Sr.

SHANE QUEEN, Tennessee Tech, Jr.

RICHARD SHADWICK, Morehead State, Sr.

MAURICE DRAINE, Tennessee Tech, Jr.

ARA JACKSON, Eastern Kentucky, Jr.

FRED JOHNSON, Morehead State, Jr.

JAMES CHINN, SE Missouri State, Sr.

TYRONE FISHER, Morehead State, Sr.

RANDY FULLER, Tennessee State, Jr.

JAMIE REDMOND, Middle Tennessee, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class

GARTH PETRILLI, Middle Tenn., Soph. COLIN GODFREY, Tennessee State, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



Markus Thomas. **RB**, Eastern Kentucky



Caldwell, **DL**, Middle Tennessee

AUSTIN PEAY STATE

Coach: Roy Gregory (5-6, 1 year) 1991 record: 5-6. OVC: 3-4/T3rd.

Key players: Bunky Beasley, LB; Richard Darden, DL; Brian Harvey, LB; Samy Hillman, TB; James Mesidor, LB; Jody Smith, FB; Bill Sneathen, OT; James Mescur, LB; Reggle Williams, OB; Darlus Willis, CB; Charles Woods, TE; Calon Yeldon, LB; Mack Young, OT. Strengths: The entire backfield and four linemen re-

turn on offense. Six players return from one of the league's better defenses. Gregory's battle with can-cer should give this team an inspirational boost.

Weaknesses: Wishbone offenses are hard to prepare for—but also hard to raily with. A punter and help in the secondary are needed, too. Outlook: Although the Governors played tough

outlook: Although the Governors played tough against the league's best teams in 1991, their talent level isn't comparable with the OVC's elite.

Scholute: Eastern Illinois, Sept. 5; Knoxville (Tenn.), Sept. 12; at Southern Illinois, Sept. 19; at Southeast Missouri State, Sept. 26; at Murray State, Oct. 3; at Middle Tennessee State, Oct. 10; Tennessee Tech, Oct. 17; at Tennessee State, Oct. 24; Morehead State, Oct. 24; Extensive State, Oct. 24; Morehead State, Oct. 31; Eastern Kentucky, Nov. 14; UT-Martin, Nov.

Nicknama: Governors. Site: Clarksville, Tenn.

EASTERN KENTUCKY

Coach: Roy Kidd (230-81-8, 28 years). 1991 record: 12-2 (including 2-1 in I-AA playoffs). OVC: 7-0/1st.

Key players: Chad Bratzke, DT; Leon Brown, FL; Joey

Rey pigers: Chad Bratzke, D1; Leon Brown, FL; Josy Crenshaw, QB; Ara Jackson, LB; Brad Ladd, DB; Kenny McCollum, SE; Fred Moton, DB; Mike Penman, TB; Brian Pressler, OT; Markus Thomas, TB; Glenn Williams, DB; Dwayne Woods, TE. Strengths: Thomas might be the league's best player and is on track to become the Colonels' all-time leading rusher. The secondary has two regulars back, plus three others who played a lot. Bratzke had an outstanding first caseon as a starter an outstanding first season as a starter.

Weaksesses: Twelve starters have departed, and Kidd has a big reconstruction job to do on both lines. The Colonels may be forced to throw more, and passing is not a team strength.

not a team strength.
Outleck: On paper, it looks like the Colonels could struggle. But history shows they always contend.
Setzdule: At Western Kentucky, Sept. 5; Northeast Louisiana, Sept. 19; Tennessee Tech, Sept. 26; Southeast Missouri State, Oct. 3; at Samford, Oct. 10; at Middle Tennessee State, Oct. 17; at UT-Martin, Oct. 24; Tennessee State, Oct. 31; Murray State, Nov. 7; at Austin Peay State, Nov. 14; at Morehead State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Colonels. Site: Richmond, Ky.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: Boots Donnelly (95-55, 13 years; 109-62

overall, 15 years). 1991 record: 9-4 (including 1-1 in I-AA playoffs). OVC: 6-1/2nd.

Key players: Andre Boykin, S; Mike Caldwell, DE; Walt Crowder, FB; Steve Dark, TE; Walter Dunson, TB; Crowder, FB; Steve Dark, TE; Watter Dunson, TB; Cheyene Hill, DT; Kelly Holcomb, QB; Randy Houston, DG; Danny Lawrence, DE; Steve McAdoo, OT; Vince Parks, SE; Garth Petrilli, K; Jamie Redmond, CB; Jabbar Troutman, LB; Curt Watkins, SE.

Strengths: Holcomb, who played well as a true fresh-Streaghts: Morcomb, who prayed wen as a true freshman in '91, makes the passing game dangerous. Dunson is a talented tailback. The perimeter people on defense (ends, corners and safety) return to lead a traditionally quick and tough unit.

Wesknesses: Joe Campbell, the team's all-time rushing and scoring leader, and flanker Orlando Crenthau will be missed. Both lines must be restocked.

shaw will be missed. Both lines must be restocked.

Outlock: A year ago, the Blue Raiders had only three home games and still won nine of 11 games against

I-AA opponents before losing in the I-AA playoff quarterfinals. They're the team to beat.

Schedule: At Tennessee State, Sept. 5; at Nebraska, Sept. 12; at Murray State, Sept. 26; at Northern IIlinois, Oct. 3; Austin Peay State, Oct. 10; Eastern Kentucky, Oct. 17; at Southeast Missouri, Oct. 24; at Georgia Southern, Oct. 31; at UT-Martin, Nov. 7; Morehead State, Nov. 14; Tennessee Tech, Nov. 21: Nicknama: Blue Raiders.

Site: Murfreesboro, Tenn.

MOREHEAD STATE

Cosch: Cole Proctor (9-13, 2 years). 1991 record: 4-7. OVC: 3-4/T3rd.

Key players: Matt Bloemer, QB; Tyrone Fisher, DB; Brandon Ford, TE; Lawrence Gore, DB; Darrin Harris, RB; Rodney Harris, WR; Jeremy Holbrook, QB; Anthony Jerdine, RB; Fred Johnson, LB; Don Mathews, LB; Jesse Olverson, TE; Jamie Phillips, LB; Richard Shadwick, DL; Tom Svobodny, OL.

Strengths: The defense was awful the first half of last year and very good in the second half. Enough key people are returning to make the unit formidable again. Darrin Harris is a talented tallback.

Weaknesses: Proctor wants to emphasize the run. thereby giving option quarterbacks Bloemer and Holbrook an edge over incumbent Steve Donato. The change in philosophy could make for an unsettled situation. Replacements are needed in both lines.

Outlook: With 15 returning starters, the Eagles may

challenge the league's upper crust. The defense and ground game must do well in early games.

Schodele: At Marshall, Sept. 5; West Virginia State, Sept. 12; at UT-Martin, Sept. 26; at East Tennessee State, Oct. 10; Murray State, Oct. 17; at Tennessee Tech, Oct. 24; at Austin Peay State, Oct. 31; Southeast Missouri, Nov. 7; at Middle Tennessee, Nov. 14; Eastern Kentucky, Nov. 21. Hicknems: Eagles.

Site: Morehead, Ky.

MURRAY STATE

Coach: Mike Mahoney (21-32-1, 5 years). 1991 record: 3-8. OVC: 1-6/8th.

Key players: Melvin Aldridge, LB; Beau Brown, CB; Scott Cannon, DT; Dave Cox, FB; Martin Diehl, LB; Kevin Gibbs, DE; Tremain Lewis, QB; Waynee McGowan, TB; Marcus Perry, CG; David Redmond, SE; Steve Rokusek, DT; Tyrone Young, S.

Strengths: The offensive backfield could be potent with sophomores Lewis, Cox and McGowan having picked up valuable experience a year ago.

Weeksesse: The defense needs a major face-lift at

most positions. Only Redmond returns with any appreciable experience among the receivers.

Outlied: Mahoney signed 26 newcomers, and many

figure to play key roles. He also survived some intense scrutiny by the school's administration after last season. The Racers could be better, but they don't look like a contender

don't took like a contender. schedule: At Southeast Missouri State, Sept. 3; at Eastern Illinois, Sept. 19; Middle Tennessee State, Sept. 26; Austin Peay State, Oct. 3; at UT-Martin, Oct. 10; at Morehead State, Oct. 17; Tennessee Tech, Oct. 31; at Eastern Kentucky, Nov. 7; Tennessee State, Nov. 14; Western Kentucky, Nov. 21.

Mickoame: Racers. Site: Murray, Ky.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE

Coach: John Mumford (10-11, 2 years). 1991 record: 3-8. OVC: 3-4/T3rd.

Key players: Kelvin Anderson, RB; Doug Berg, DE; Steve Bryant, DB; James Chinn, DB; Shawn Corbett, OL; Joe Divis, LB; Antoine Esters, RB; Mike Hodge, OL; Jason Liley, QB; Brandon Norman, C; Chris Pickett, NG; Claude Sanders, LB; Eric Zimmerman, K

Strengths: Liley, slowed by a knee injury most of 1991, was a solid player the year before. He has three good receivers and last season's entire offensive line back to help him.

Wesknesses: The good news is that eight defensive starters are back. The bad news is that the Indians gave up a league-worst 34 points per game in '91.

Outlook: The Indians are coming off a rough first sea

Unutok: The Indians are coming on a rough first season in I-AA. If Liley's knee is sound, this team might contend for third place.

Schedule: Murray State, Sept. 3; at Southern Illinois, Sept. 12; Austin Peay State, Sept. 26; at Eastern Kentucky, Oct. 3; at Tennessee Tech, Oct. 10; at Samford, Oct. 17; Middle Tennessee State, Oct. 24; UT-Martin, Oct. 31; at Morehead State, Nov. 7; Illinois State, Nov. 17; Illinois State, Nov. 18; at Tennessee State, Nov. 21 linois State, Nov. 14; at Tennessee State, Nov. 21. Niekname: Indians.

Site: Cape Girardeau, Mo.

UT-MARTIN

Coach: Don McLeary (30-38, 6 years; 40-46 overall, 8 years). 1991 record: 5-6 in Division II.

Key players: Rickey Armstrong, QB; Bubba Beasley, P/QB; Roger Brown, QG; Ryan Bullington, DE; Dewayne Harper, DB; Mike Harris, OT; Trevor Hurst, OL; Joe Keating, DE; Charles Malone, WR; O'Dale Sat-terfield, DB; Todd Shanks, LB; Scott Stidham, WR; Tab Yowell, DB; Tim Wright, DT. Strengths: Malone and Stidham are the best of an out-

standing corps of receivers. Harper (98 tackles), Shanks (90), Keating (82) and Satterfield (74)

make the defense respectable.

Weaknesses: The Pacers' run-and-shoot offense needs a pilot, and the leading candidates (Armstrong and Beasley) have little experience. And even If the offense matures, UT-Martin must find a way to

stop other people from scoring.

Outlook: The best hope for the Pacers, who are moving up from Division II, is to finish in the crowded mix behind Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky.

Schodale: Delta State (Miss.), Sept. 5; at UT-Chattanooga, Sept. 12; Morehead State, Sept. 26; at Tennessee Tech, Oct. 3; Murray State, Oct. 10; at Tennessee State, Oct. 17; Eastern Kentucky, Oct. 24; At Scuttern Misseuri State, Oct. 24; Mid-Tennes at Southeast Missouri State, Oct. 31; Middle Tennes-see State, Nov. 7; Samford, Nov. 14; at Austin Peay State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Pacers. Site: Martin, Tenn.

TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: Joe Gilliam Sr. (15-17-1, 3 years; 17-30-2

overall, 5 years). 1991 record: 3-8, OVC: 2-5/T6th.

Key players: Brent Alexander, S; Cedric Davis, CB; Darron Davis, HB; Leo Eggleston, FB; John Frierson, WR; Randy Fuller, CB; Gerome Gardner, DT; Colin Godfrey, P; Chad McCollam, HB; Robert Moorman,

OT; Marcus Moye, FB; Patrick Robinson, WR; Armond Singleton, DT; James Wade, QB.

Strengths: The passing game is in good hands with Wade, an All-OVC performer, and Robinson, who enters his final season ranked high on NFL draft charts. Godfrey is a two-time All-America punter. The secondary is solid.

Weaknesses: Both lines and the linebacking corps must be rebuilt.

Outlock: Many people think the Tigers have the thirdbest talent in the league, but injuries and off-field distractions have unsettled this team. Last March, Gilliam resigned, only to rescind his resignation five

days later after saying he had been misinformed about his future at the school. If the squad comes together, it could challenge the OVC's Big Two.

Schadels: Middle Tennessee State, Sept. 5; Jackson State (at Memphis), Sept. 12; at Grambling State, Sept. 19; Florida A&M (at Atlanta), Sept. 26; at Morehead State, Oct. 10; UT-Martin, Oct. 17; Austin Peay State, Oct. 24; at Eastern Kentucky, Oct. 31; at Tennessee Tech, Nov. 7; at Murray State, Nov. 14; Southeast Missouri State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Tigers. Site: Nashville, Tenn.

TENNESSEE TECH

Coach: Jim Ragland (19-45, 6 years).
1991 record: 2-9, OVC: 2-5/T6th.
Key players: Randy Beaman, OB; Maurice Draine, LB;
Tim Ford, LB; Daniel Gipson, K; Chip Hoimes, DB;
Felix Parham, OB; Glen Puryear, WR; Shane Queen,
DE; Willie Queen, RB; Tracy Russell, C; Billy Shackelford, FB; Damyen Taylor, OB; Marrio Thomas, LB: Strengths: Three quarterbacks who started at least one game in 1991 are back. The defense, traditionally a strong suit, could be the Golden Eagles' best in years. Eight defensive starters return from '91 as well as two from '90 who missed last season.

Weaknesses: The offense ranked next-to-last in the league and could have trouble moving the ball again. Cutlook: Tech is capable of moving up a couple of spots in the league standings, but it probably won't

contend for the league title.

contend for the league fitte.

Schedule: Lock Haven (Pa.), Sept. 12; Samford, Sept. 19; at Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 26; UT-Martin, Oct. 3; Southeast Missouri State, Oct. 10; at Austin Peay State, Oct. 17; Morehead State, Oct. 24; at Murray State, Oct. 31; Tennessee State, Nov. 7; at Marshall, Nov. 14; at Middle Tennessee State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Golden Eagles. Site: Cookeville, Tenn.

Text by Jim Terhune.

Fordham's Blazejewski proves he can tackle injuries and foes

By CHARLIE McCARTHY **New York Post**

ordham's Mark Blazejewski is lucky the Patriot League hand out an award for comeback player of the week. Otherwise, the middle linebacker's mantel might not have room for honors citing his on-field accomplishments.

'He got hurt during our game and was carried off the field (with a leg injury in the first quarter)," said Bucknell Coach Lou Maranzana. whose team beat Fordham, 21-14, last season. "My coaches and I were on the sidelines saying, 'Whew, that will make things easier.' But he came back (after halftime)!

"He's what I call a cold-region dinosaur—a guy who plays with dirt on his face. He's the best linebacker in the league, as far as I'm concerned.'

It's understandable Maranzana feels as he does about Fordham's "Blaze," who registered 21 tackles (11 solo), a fumble recovery and a pass breakup against Bucknell that autumn afternoon. To say that game included Blazejewski's greatest comeback, though, would be wrong.

After the 1989 season (his sophomore campaign), the 6-foot, 225-pound Blazejewski injured his left knee during an intramural basketball game and was forced to undergo reconstructive surgery. He sat out the 1990 season as a medical redshirt, but he came back in '91 with a vengeance.

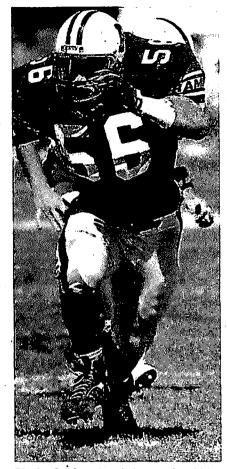
Blazejewski, a native of Poland, led the league in tackles (14.5 per game) and earned second-team All-America honors last season as Fordham went 2-8 in its third Division I-AA season (second in the Patriot League).

Any good middle linebacker plays the position because he likes the contact," Blazejewski said. "I don't think I'm gifted, but I think I'm a pretty emotional guy who reacts pretty well and works his tail off."

Blazejewski combines his emotional play and work ethic with mental toughness on the field. But, ironically, a mental error nearly ended the '91 season prematurely for the Blaze.

'I had worn long cleats against Bucknell because of the wet field, and I wore the same cleats again the next week against Princeton even though the weather was good," said Blazejewski, whose team lost to the Ivy League Tigers, 20-17. "During the game, my foot got stuck in the turf and I tore a ligament. I had to undergo arthroscopic

Blazejewski returned the very next Saturday to chalk up 12 tackles (10 solo) and help lift the Rams to a 20-16 victory



Blazing back: After sitting out the 1990 season due to reconstructive knee surgery, Mark Blazejewski returned in '91 to lead the Patriot League in tackles.

over Columbia. He ended the season with a 19-tackle effort in a 14-9 loss to

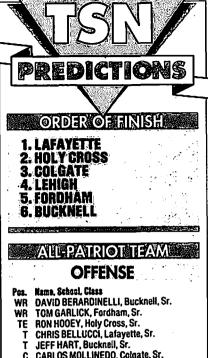
"He's not very big," Maranzana said, "but he's quick to the ball, and he's the type of guy who feels he has to make every tackle."

That competitive attitude was nurtured in and around Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where Blazejewski's family settled after fleeing Poland when Blaze was eight years old.

'My mother thinks I'm crazy; she'd give me all the money in the world not to play football," the senior said. "She understands I love it, but she doesn't understand how much I need it. I think a person has to have been a player to understand that."

What would Blaze's mother say about him playing professionally in the National Football League or the World League of American Football?

"I don't care what she'd say," Blazejewski said through a chuckle. "To make a living at, and getting paid for, playing something you love? That would be great."



CARLOS MOLLINEDO, Colgate, Sr. DAVE PYNE, Lafayette, Sr.

ERIC RUTTER, Bucknell, Sr. TOM KIRCHHOFF, Lafayette, Sr. OB ERIK MARSH, Lafavette, Soph. BILL SPARACIO, Colgate, Jr.

DEFENSE

Name, School, Class JOHN LUSK, Bucknell, Sr. TOM McDONALD, Holy Cross, Sr. PAUL SCHULTHEIS, Colgate, Sr.

MARK BLAZEJEWSKI, Fordham, Sr. LB MARCUS DUCKWORTH, Holy Cross, Sr.

KEVIN JEFFERSON, Lehigh, Jr. LB KEVIN McMANUS, Lafayette, Sr. ADAM CIPERSKI, Lehigh, Sr.

BRAD JORDAN, Fordham, Sr. CHRIS TIRONE, Fordham, Sr. MIKE WILT, Fordham, Jr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class JASON McLAUGHLIN, Lafayette, Soph. JEFF MEADER, Holy Cross, Jr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Érik Marsh, TB. Lafayette



DEFENSE: Mark Blazejewski, LB. Fordham

DAR OF LEAGUE TEAM GIVES

BUCKNELL

Couch: Lou Maranzana (13-18, 3 years). 1991 record: 1-9. Patriot: 1-4/5th.

Key slayers: David Berardineili, WR; Cecil Boone, DT; Blaine Fawcett, S; Greg Gerdeman, OT; Jeff Hart, OT; Blaine Fawcett, S; Greg Gerdeman, OT; Jeff Hart, OT; Kevin Kane, LB; Janne Kilpelainen, DT; Travis Kopp, OB; John Lusk, DE; Shane Lympus, DT; Matt Noli, CB; Eric Rutter, OG; Russ Strohecker, LB; Matt Walsh, TB (switched from WR); Troy. White, CB. Strengths: Bucknell is experienced on the offensive and defensive lines, Berardinelli returns after leading the team in receiving, and Walsh will play tailback after operating as a receiver in '91.

Weaknesses: Kopp missed spring practice after un-dergoing shoulder surgery, so Mark Gentile and Rob Glus lead the race for the quarterback job heading

Glus lead the race for the quarterback job heading into the fall. The defense includes inexperienced linebackers. The special teams are questionable. Gullest: Bucknell should be better, although its '92 record may not show much improvement over last year (1-9). The Bison still are a year away from challenging for the league title. Schefule: Bloomsburg (Pa.), Sept. 5; at Villanova, Sept. 12; at Towson State, Sept. 19; Brown, Sept. 26; at Dartmouth, Oct. 3; at Columbia, Oct. 10; at Holy Cross, Oct. 24; Fordham, Oct. 31; at Lehigh, Nov. 7; Lafayette, Nov. 14; Colgate, Nov. 21. Nickaams: Bison.

Nickname: Bison. Sile: Lewisburg, Pa.

COLGATE

Coach: Mike Foley (17-27, 4 years).
1991 record: 4-7. Patriot: 3-2/TZnd.
Key players: Rick Brown, K; Ryan Cook, S; T.J.
Donahue, LB; Frank Gianci, LB; Jim Kaufman, LB;
Darin Kenley, LB; Greg Kuchar, GB; Carlos Mollinedo,
C; Joe Napoli, FB; Scott Newbert, TE; Ron Ransom,
CB; Adam Rennert, P/K; Jim Russell, DB; Kevin
Scheffler, LB; Baul Schuttheir, DE; Bill Screen TB; Scheffler, LB; Paul Schultheis, DE; Bill Sparacio, TB;

Scheiner, Lb; Paul Schuitners, De; Bill Sparacio, 16; Tyler Whaling, TE.
Strungths: Quarterback Russell and tailback Sparacio fuel a backfield that returns its top three runners.
Safety Cook and the rest of secondary will have to lead the defense. The kicking game should be strong.
Weaknesses: The defensive line must develop around end Schulthers. The return of Donahue and Kaufman from '91 injuries is critical to the success of the linebacking corps. Three of the top five receivers from '91 have graduated.

Cutlook: Foley will be disappointed if his team isn't in the thick of the league race. The Red Raiders should be able to score points, but the key will be if they can

stop the opposition.
Schriele: At Rutgers, Sept. 12; at Fordham, Sept. 19; at Pennsylvania, Sept. 26; at Columbia, Oct. 3; Buffalo, Oct. 10; Cornell, Oct. 17; at Lehigh, Oct. 24; Lafayette, Oct. 31; William & Mary, Nov. 7; Hoty Cross, Nov. 14; at Bucknell, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Red Raiders. Site: Hamilton, N.Y.

FORDHAM

Coach: Larry Glueck (28-32-1, 6 years). 1991 record: 2-8. Patriot: 0-5/6th.

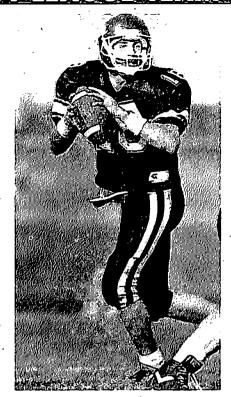
1991 record: 2-8. Patriot: 0-5/6th.

Key players: Mike Beler, OG; Rob Birk, OT; Mark
Blazejewski, LB; Aaron Dougherty, DE; Tom Garlick,
SE; Curt Geisler, DT; Tony lasiello, FB; Brad Jordan,
S; David Kniese, OG; Conrad Olear, QB; Neil Penttinen, C; John Potamousis, FL; Ryan Reinert, DE;
John Strauss, TE; Chris Tirone, S; Mike Wilt, CB.

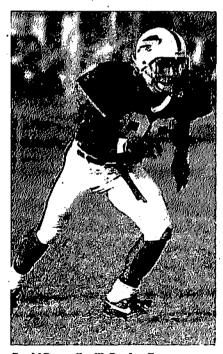
Strengths: Linebacker Blazejewski and safety Tirone lead a defense that sports eight returning starters. The offense, anchored by nine returning starters, will rely on fullback lasiello, receiver Garlick and quality line play.

Weaknesses: The Rams need to find a quarterback and place-kicker and hope that tailback Darren Wallace is fully recovered from knee surgery that kept him out all of '91. Olear probably will win the quarterback job. Fordham must develop a pass rush. Outlook: After playing well in most games last season, Fordham is cautiously optimistic heading into '92. If a quarterback takes charge, the Rams could sur-

Schedule: At Lehigh, Sept. 12; Colgate, Sept. 19; Co-lumbia, Sept. 26; Pennsylvania, Oct. 3; at Yale, Oct. 10; at Hofstra, Oct. 16; Lafayette, Oct. 24; at Buck-nell, Oct. 31; at Villanova, Nov. 14; at Holy Cross,



Jim Russell, Colgate



David Berardinelli, Bucknell

Nickozme: Rams. Site: Bronx, N.Y.

HOLY CROSS

Coach: Peter Vaas (first year; 29-11-1 overall, 4 years). 1991 record: 11-0. Patriot: 5-0/1st. Key players: Greg Draddy, DE; Marcus Duckworth, LB; Joe Gallagher, WR; Al Hebron, WR; Ron Hooey, TE; Tom McDonald, DT; Jeff Meader, P; Rob Milanette, LB; Garrett Morris, CB; Anthony Pignio, K; John Powell, DE; Shawn Sierra, TB; Mike Walsh, S; Matt Warth, OG; Scott Wikander, FB.

Strengths: The Crusaders' running backs and receivers are good, but they need some support. Tackle
McDonald, end Powell and linebacker Duckworth
lead a defense that should be strong against the
pass. Meader is a solid punter.

Weaknesses: Holy Cross returns just six starters. Of-fensively, the Crusaders need to find a quarterback and develop the line. On defense, Holy Cross needs

help stopping the run.

fell stopping the ran.

Sullook: Despite boasting an abundance of inexperience, Vaas is confident his predecessor, Mark Duffner, who left to coach Maryland, built a program that reloads and doesn't rebuild. Still, unknown factors on offense could bring the Crusaders back to the

pack. Schedule: At Army, Sept. 12; Massachusetts, Sept. 19; at Yale, Sept. 26; Harvard, Oct. 3; Dartmouth, Oct. 10; Princeton, Oct. 17; Bucknell, Oct. 24; Lehigh, Oct. 31; at Lafayette, Nov. 7; at Colgate, Nov. 14; Fordham, Nov. 21.

Kickname: Crusaders. Site: Worcester, Mass.

LAFAYETTE

Coach: Bill Russo (66-51-1, 11 years; 81-66-1 over-

Caach: Bill Husso (86-51-1, 11 years; 81-66-1 over-all, 14 years). 1991 record: 6-5. Patriot: 3-2/T2nd. Key players: Ed Albert, DT; Chris Bellucci, OT; John Carter, SE; Shawn Carter, S; Dave Gash, DE; Mike Grau, FL (RS/lung); Ed Hudak, OG; Jamal Jordan, FL; Tom Kirchhoff, QB; Obi Luckett, LB; Erik Marsh, TB; Jason McLaughlin, K; Kevin McManus, LB; Dave Pyne, OG; Mark Reardon, S; Crafg Roubinek, TE; Metfa Slaunber I R

Netfa Slaughter, LB.

Netta Slaughter, LB.
Strengths: Quarterback Kirchhoff and tailback Marsh, who was named Patriot League Rookie of the Year, lead a bevy of veteran skill-position players who will play behind an experienced line. Grau's return will bolster the receiving corps. The defensive front seven is back. Place-kicker McLaughlin earned allleague mention in '91.

Weeknesses: Lafayette must find two cornerbacks, but Russo is confident some young players will fill the voids. Punting is a question mark,

Outlook: After winning the Patriot crown in '88, the Leopards have rebuilt the last three seasons. Their patience may pay off this year in the form of a league

Schedele: Hofstra, Sept. 12; Buffalo, Sept. 19; at Princeton, Sept. 26; at Cornell, Oct. 3; at Army, Oct. 10; Harvard, Oct. 17; at Fordham, Oct. 24; at Colgate, Oct. 31; Holy Cross, Nov. 7; at Bucknell, Nov. 14; Lehigh, Nov. 21.

Nickosme: Leopards. Site: Easton, Pa.

LEHIGH

Coach: Hank Small (37-28-1, 6 years).

1991 record: 9-2. Patriot: 3-2/T2nd.

Key players: Dave Cecchini, WR; Adam Ciperski, S;
Jason Cristino, WR; Paul Deluliis, DT; Charles Endicott, C; Lance Haynes, LB; Calvin Hobbs, OG; Kevin
Jefferson, LB; Dan Johnson, DT; Mark Lockenbill, TB; Sean McCarthy, TE; Scott Semptimphelter, QB; Ben Taylor, CB; Mark Widder, DL; Mike Yadush, LB. Strengths: Lehigh is confident after going 16-6 over the last two seasons. The Engineers are buoyed by talented offensive and defensive lines. Jefferson and

Yadush are stellar linebackers. Weeknesses: Although Lehigh is talented, it lacks ex-perience. Holes must be filled at defensive end, receiver, fullback and place-kicker.

Outlook: Small hopes his troops gain experience and

Unitods: Small nobes his troops gain experience and momentum in the non-conference games before entering league play. But the best the Engineers can hope for is a middle-of-the-pack finish.

Schedule: Fordham, Sept. 12; New Hampshire, Sept. 19; at Cornell, Sept. 26; Princeton, Oct. 3; at Northeastern, Oct. 10; at Brown, Oct. 17; Colgate, Oct. 24; at Holy Cross, Oct. 31; Bucknell, Nov. 7; at William & Ham. March 14. Mary, Nov. 14; at Lafayette, Nov. 21.

Mickname: Engineers. Site: Bethlehem, Pa.

Text by Charlie McCarthy.

Marshall's Brown is one gem the recruiters overlooked

By JEFF D'ALESSIO Charleston Daily Mail

ith countless college football recruiters constantly scouring the nation's high schools and junior colleges for talent, it's rare that a truly gifted player gets overlooked.

Somehow, Troy Brown did.

Brown, Marshall's standout flanker/ kick returner, has been compared by some observers to former Notre Dame star Raghib (Rocket) Ismail: But when Brown was starring at Lees-McRae (N.C.) Junior College two years ago, Marshall was the only four-year school that offered him a scholarship.

"I don't know how something like that happens with all of the recruiting services and everything out there now," said Southern Mississippi assistant coach Mac Bryan, who coached Brown at Lees-McRae. "I guess what people saw was a guy who ran a 4.6, wasn't overly big and had already been in school two years.'

"The only place I even visited was Marshall," said Brown, who concluded his two-year junior college career with 44 catches for 860 vards and seven touchdowns. "I liked it here. I liked it a

lot. So I signed."

Last season, Brown averaged 38.3 yards per kickoff return, 14.8 yards per punt return (second in Division I-AA), 21.6 yards per reception and 122.6 allpurpose yards per game. The slithery 5foot-9, 184-pounder scored 12 touchdowns-three on kickoff returns-and, playing on special teams, blocked two field goals, a punt and an extra-point attempt in the Thundering Herd's last five games.

"He's gotta be the special-teams player of the decade," Marshall Coach Jim Donnan said. "All-purpose-wise, he's a

150-175 yards-a-game guy."

As a pass catcher, Brown lacks the flat-out speed some receivers have—he has been clocked around 4.5 seconds in the 40-yard dash-but he makes up for it in other ways.

Bill Walsh, who broadcast Notre Dame games for NBC during Ismail's time there, once said the multipurpose star had "functional speed," which he meant as "starts and stops, lateral movement, making a tackler miss." Brown is much the same kind of player, frequently running into swarming packs of would-be tacklers after making a catch, only to juke his way free for a big gain.

"He's got that quick, initial burst, and he changes directions so quickly," Donnan said. "Speed is so relative. The only thing I know is that he never got caught from behind last year."

The problem this year might be get-



Multipurpose star: Troy Brown makes plenty of big plays for Marshall as a receiver and special-teams performer.

ting the ball to Brown. He'll likely get plenty of double coverage as a receiver, and opponents will kick away from him at every opportunity when he is used as a returner. A preview of what might be in store occurred in last year's Division I-AA title game, when Youngstown State booted its kicks short and/or out of bounds to keep the ball out of Brown's hands. The Penguins rallied from a 17-3 deficit to win, 25-17.

"Troy didn't touch the ball on a kick or a punt," Donnan lamented. "That was the difference in the game.'

Like most seniors, Brown enters his final college season with one eye on the National Football League. In the fall of 1993, it's likely this kid with average speed and average size will try to forge his way onto an NFL roster.

"He's a can't-miss player," Donnan said. "He can do it all."

After Brown caught seven passes for 248 yards and three touchdowns in the Thundering Herd's 61-0 rout of Virginia Military Institute last November, Donnan called him, "unequivocally, one of the premier players in America on Saturdays or Sundays."

NFL scouts, of course, will have the final say on Brown's pro prospects. Brown is hoping that they'll have a better grasp of his abilities than most college recruiters once did.



ORDER OF FINISH

1. MARSHALL

2. APPALACHIAN STATE 3. UT-CHATTANOOGA

4. FURMAN . THE CITADEL

6. WESTERN CAROLINA 7. VIRGINIA MILITARY

8. EAST TENNESSEE STATE

ALLSOUTHERN TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class

TROY BROWN, Marshall, Sr.

SCOTT DYKES, East Tennessee State, Jr.

MIKE BARTRUM, Marshall, Sr.

CAREY CASH, The Citadel, Sr.

CHRIS DEATON, Marshall, Jr.

LORENZO CARPENTER, VMI, Sr.

TODD HARKINS, Western Carolina, Sr.

PHIL RATLIFF, Marshall, Sr.

MICHAEL PAYTON, Marshall, Sr.

CHIP HOOKS, Appalachian State, Soph.

CARL TREMBLE, Furman, Sr.

DEFENSE

Name, School, Class Pos.

AVERY HALL, Appalachlan State, Sr. ומ

DAVID MASTERSON, UT-Chat., Sr.

MIKE PERFETTI, VMI, Sr.

RYAN LIVEZEY, Furman, Sr

RICO MACK, Appalachian State, Sr.

LB DONAHUE STEPHENSON, Marshall, Jr.

KOTA SUTTLE, Furman, Sr.

DEWAYNE ARKADIE, VMI, Sr.

ROGER JOHNSON, Marshall, Sooh,

DB

LESTER SMITH, The Citadel, Sr.
WILLIE WILLIAMS, Western Carolina, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class

ROB AVRIETT, The Citadel, Jr.

HAROLD ALEXANDER, Appal. St., Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR.



OFFENSE: Michael QB, Marshall



DEFENSE: LB, Appalachian State

œ 4

APPALACHIAN STATE

Coach: Jerry Moore (23-12, 3 years; 50-60-2 overall, 10 years).

1991 record: 8-4 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Southern: 6-1/1st.

Southern: 6-1/1st.

Key players: Harold Alexander, P; Jason Budinger, OG;
D.J. Campbell, QB; Brent David, LB; Avery Hall, DT;
Chip Hooks, TB; Rico Mack, LB; Jay Millison, K; Ben
Pardue, LB; J.K. Reaves, FB; Dustin Reeves, OG; Anthony Smith, FL; Sean Swoope, DE.
Strengths: Mack is the premier player on the league's
premier defense. Hall and Swoope lead a relentless
line. Alexander is the best punter in Division I-AA.
Hooks, a 1,117-yard rusher as a freshman, adds a
bit of flash to a methodical, but effective, offense.

Westansus: Three-fifths of the offensive line is gone

Weeknesses: Three-fifths of the offensive line is gone and the defensive backfield needs work.

Outlock: A pile-driving defense and a supernatural

Outlook: A pile-driving defense and a supernatural punter should make Appalachian State a close second to Marshall in the Southern this year.

Schools: At North Carolina State, Sept. 5; at Wake Forest, Sept. 12; East Tennessee State, Sept. 26; The Citadel, Oct. 3; at James Madison, Oct. 10; at Virginia Military Institute, Oct. 17; Furman, Oct. 24; at UT-Chattanooga, Oct. 31; at Marshall, Nov. 7; North Carolina A&T, Nov. 14; Western Carolina, Nov. 21.

Historage, Mountainers. Nickname: Mountaineers.

Site: Boone, N.C.

THE CITADEL

Coach: Charlie Taaffe (31-25-1, 5 years). 1991 record: 7-4. Southern: 5-2/T2nd.

1991 recore: 7-4. Southern: 5-2/12a. Key players: Rob Avriett, K; Damond Boatwright, WR; Rob Briggs, LB; Carey Cash, OL; Brett Copeland, OL; Layne Dellinger, DT; Jack Douglas, OB; Lance Hansen, OL; Erick Little, HB; Ed McFarland, LB; David Morelli, OL; Everette Sands, FB; Cedric Sims, HB; Lester Smith, S; Eric Willingham, P.

Stragths: The Citade's unbending wishbone will follow the lead of Douglas, who reshed for 1, 152 wards.

low the lead of Douglas, who rushed for 1,152 yards in 1991. Sands and Sims are fine receivers, while all-league honoree Cash provides the support up front. Smith is a good cover man.

Weaknesses: Defense, Only three starters return from a unit that wasn't all that terrific to begin with. The entire front five must be replaced. Finding a capable center for the offensive line is crucial.

Center for the offensive line is crucial.

Outlook: A soft, young defense will surrender a lot of yards, but Douglas alone could keep the Bulldogs in the hunt for a playoff berth.

Setsdels: At Arkansas, Sept. 5; Wofford (S.C.), Sept. 12; East Tennessee State, Sept. 19; at Army, Sept. 26; at Appalachian State, Oct. 3; UT-Chattanooga, Oct. 10; Marshall, Oct. 17; at Western Carolina, Oct. 24; Newberry (N.C.), Nov. 7; Virginia Military Institute, Nov. 14; at Furman, Nov. 21.

Mickagne: Buildogs. Nickname: Bulldogs

Site: Charleston, S.C.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: Mike Cavan (first year; 37-22-2 overall, 6 vears).

1991 record: 1-10. Southern: 0-7/8th.

Key players: Chris Beatty, WR; Al Blunt, LB; Woodrow Dixon, FB; Scott Dykes, WR; Kwayu Graham, WR; Marcus Huff, LB; Malachi Jamison, DB; Richie Jehn-Marcus Huff, LB; Malachi Jamison, DB; Richie Johnson, LB; Bobby Kaylor, C; Moe Kelly, DB; Chad Radcliffe, DT (RS/academics); David Rockhold, WR; Cedric Watson, TB (RS/academics).

Strungths: Dykes, Graham and Watson are talented skill-position players who have a lot of experience. Huff leads an improving linebacking corps. Kelly and Jamison are emerging players in the secondary.

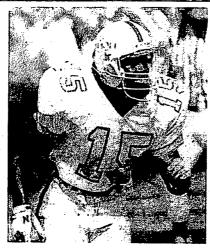
Weaknesses: The Buccaneers have no quarterback on their roster who has taken even one snap in a college.

their roster who has taken even one snap in a college game. Even with an experienced quarterback last year, the Bucs averaged just 17 points per game. Outlack: It can't get any worse than last year's 1-10 debacle. Or can it? Cavan has a major reconstruction

lob on his hands.

Schedule: Virginia Military Institute, Sept. 5; Mars Hill (N.C.), Sept. 12; at The Citadel, Sept. 19; at Appalachian State, Sept. 26; Morehead State, Oct. 3; Charleston (S.C.) Southern, Oct. 10; at Louisiana Tech, Oct. 17; Furman, Oct. 31; at UT-Chattanooga, Nov. 7; at Western Carolina, Nov. 14; Marshall, Nov.

Nisknama: Buccaneers. Site: Johnson City, Tenn.



Lester Smith, The Citadel

FURMAN

Coach: Jimmy Satterfield (55-19-2, 6 years). 1991 record: 7-4. Southern: 4-3/T4th.

Key players: Robert Beavers, LB; Damon Bradley, SE;

Key piagras: Robert Beavers, LB; Damon Bradley, SE; Clint Crocker, DT; Jason Ensley, CB; B.J. Estes, DT; Jason Grant, CB; Mike Hardy, DT; Ryan Livezey, DE; Milan Sterling, DE; Kota Suttle, LB; Hugh Swilling, OB; Carl Tremble, TB; Andre Worrell, CB. Straugths: Tremble is the league's top running back. Swilling owned 1-AA's third-best pass efficiency rating (157.2) before a fractured thumb ended his season. Suttle, who led the conference in tackles (143) and livezey who led it in sacks (10) are (143), and Livezey, who led it in sacks (10), are back from the league's best defense of 1991.

Weeknesses: Replacements must be found for four starters on the line, a pair of starting wide receivers and the league's best tight end. The secondary lost

two starters to graduation.
Outlook: The Paladins' longtime Purple reign in the Buttook: The Paladins' longtime Purple reign in the conference looks to be over. Still, if the offense comes through, a postseason berth seems probable. Schedule: Liberty, Sept. 5; at North Carolina, Sept. 12; Presbyterian (S.C.), Sept. 19; Georgia Southern, Sept. 26; Virginia Military Institute, Oct. 3; at Marshall, Oct. 10; at Appalachian State, Oct. 24; at East Tennessee State, Oct. 31; Western Carolina, Nov. 7; at UT-Chattanooga, Nov. 14; The Citadel, Nov. 31. Nickname: Paladins.

Nickname: Paladins. Site: Greenville, S.C.

MARSHALL

Cosch: Jim Donnan (17-9, 2 years). 1991 record: 11-4 (including 3-1 in I-AA playoffs).

Southern: 5-2/T2nd.

Southern: 5-2/12nd.

Key players: Mike Bartrum, TE; Troy Brown, WR; Will Brown, WR; Chris Deaton, OL; Chris Grose, RB; Orlando Hatchett, RB; Roger Johnson, DB; William King, LB; Byran Litton, DL; Chris Parker, RB; Michael Payton, QB; Glenn Pedro, RB; Phil Ratliff, OL; Keenan Rhodes, DL; Donahue Stephenson, LB.

Strentife: You name it: Payton returns for his fourth.

Strengths: You name it. Payton returns for his fourth year as the starter after smashing the I-AA single-season pass efficiency mark (182.3) last year. Stephenson, Marshall's top tackler the last two years, leads the defense. Troy Brown returned four kickoffs for touchdowns in '91 and should shine this year as the Herd's top receiver.

Weaknesses: The kicking game is young and untested, and the secondary is suspect. A replacement must be found for Madison Sayre, an elite offensive tackle

the last four years.

Outlook: Donnan has often said 1992 would be Marshall's year. Who's to argue? This team is loaded. Schedule: Morehead State, Sept. 5; Eastern Illinois, Sept. 12; at Virginia Military Institute, Sept. 19; at Missouri, Oct. 3; Furman, Oct. 10; at The Citadel, Oct. 17; UT-Chattanooga, Oct. 24; at Western Carolina, Oct. 31; Appalachian State, Nov. 7; Tennessee Tech, Nov. 14; at East Tennessee State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Thundering Herd. Site: Huntington, W.Va.

UT-CHATTANCOGA

Coach: Buddy Nix (42-45-1, 8 years). 1991 record: 7-4. Southern: 4-3/T4th

1991 record: 7-4. Southern: 4-3/T4th.
Key players: Rodney Allen, K; Tony Ballard, DB; Todd
Beruff, LB; Anthony Boston, OL; Kenyon Earl, QB;
Jerry Ellison, RB; Chase Griffith, OL; Sammy Hadley,
WR: Demarco Kemp, TE; David Masterson, DE; Jack
Parks, CB; Tony Schultz, DL; Ron Woody, OL.
Strengths: Earl may be the league's most innovative
quarterback, capable of beating opponents with his
arm, legs or head. The defensive front seven lost only
one starter from last easen.

one starter from last season.

Weaknesses: Earl's options on offense have been Weaknesses: Earl's options on offense have been greatly reduced by the departure of many skill-position players. The receiving corps looks thin. Dutlook: If Earl progresses as expected, the Moccasins could contend with the Southern Conference's big boys, Marshall and Appalachian State. Sebtdut: At Boise State, Sept. 5; UT-Martin, Sept. 12; Central Arkansas, Sept. 26; at Clemson, Oct. 3; at The Citadel, Oct. 10; Western Carolina, Oct. 17; at Marshall Oct. 24; Appalachian State Oct. 21; at State Oct. 25.

Marshall, Oct. 24; Appalachian State, Oct. 31; East Tennessee State, Nov. 7; Furman, Nov. 14; at Virginia Military Institute, Nov. 21.

Niekpame: Moccasins.

Sile: Chattanooga, Tenn.

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Cosch: Jim Shuck (10-22-1, 3 years). 1991 record: 4-7. Southern: 2-5/T6th.

Kry players: Dewayne Arkadie, CB; Lorenzo Carpenter, C; John Cross, DE; Raymond Flowers, DE; Dan Lyle, TE; Chris Meacham, FB; John Milstead, OT; Marcus Mines, RB; Camilius Musselman, LB; Mike Perfetti, DT; Tony Scales, QB; Todd Washington, S; Tim Williams, CB/HB; Jeff Zeigler, OG.

Strengths: When healthy, Scales makes VMI's wishbone offense nearly unstoppable. The 240-pound Carpenter, a second-team All-America in 1991, anchors the offensive line. Musselman (a team-high 130 tackles) and all-league players Perfetti and Arkadie lead the defense.

Westnesses: Gaping holes must be filled at left tackle and right guard. The Keydets also lack a durable runner to complement Scales in the backfield.

Outlook: VMI is seeking its first winning season since 1981. Its defense, however, will prevent 1992 from being that season

being that season.

Schedule: At East Tennessee State, Sept. 5; at William

& Mary, Sept. 12; Marshall, Sept. 19; West Virginia

Tech, Sept. 26; at Furman, Oct. 3; at Western Carolina, Oct. 10; Appalachian State, Oct. 17; Richmond,
Oct. 24; Wofford (S.C.), Nov. 7; at The Citadel, Nov.
14; UT-Chattanooga, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Keydets. Sile: Lexington, Va.

WESTERN CAROLINA

Coach: Steve Hodgin (5-17, 2 years).
1991 record: 2-9. Southern: 2-5/T6th.
Key players: Kenny Banks, LB; Tom Bodine, LB; Lonnie Galloway, QB; Chad Greene, QB; Todd Harkins, QG; Kerry Hayes, WR; Thomas Jackson, OT; Tony Johnson, NG; Jason Ormsby, QG; Marcus Roberts, FB; Kevin Thigpen, TB; Willie Williams, CB.

Strangths: Hayes and Thigpen provide the glitz in a young, but dangerous, offense. Five veteran starters, led by Harkins, are back on a solid offensive line. All

four starting linebackers return, as does Williams, twice an all-league honoree. Weeknesses: Many questions must be answered. Can Galloway return from a midseason shoulder injury to direct the freeze-option attack? Who will complement Thigpen in the backfield? How will an inexperi-

enced defensive line respond? Outlook: The Catamounts will be a competitive team and probably will make the playoffs some year soon.

and probably will make the playons some year soon. But not this year. Setsfuls: Mars Hill (N.C.), Sept. 5; at Georgia Tech, Sept. 12; Ferrum (Va.), Sept. 26; at Samford, Oct. 3; Virginia Military Institute, Oct. 10; at UT-Chattanooga, Oct. 17; The Citadel, Oct. 24; Marshall, Oct. 31; at Furman, Nov. 7; East Tennessee State, Nov. 144: 4 Appellable State, Nov. 21. Nov. 14; at Appalachian State, Nov. 21.

Nicknama: Catamounts. Site: Cullowhee, N.C.

Text by Jeff D'Alessio.

After dealing with past turmoil, Potts is focused on the future

By CARL DUBOIS Lake Charles American Press

n his 21 years, Roosevelt Potts already has endured what amounts to a lifetime of personal crises and dilemmas.

He faced his most recent problem last Christmas. Strapped for money and unable to buy presents for friends and family, the All-America running back at Northeast Louisiana decided it was time to leave school and declare himself eligible for the 1992 National Football League draft.

But after thinking it over, Potts decided to return for his senior season, 762 yards short of setting the school's all-time rushing record and a fistful of dollars short of buying presents for yet another Christmas.

Potts knew he could improve his market value by returning. He felt sluggish last year, when he carried 261 pounds on his 6-foot-2 frame en route to gaining a Southland Conference-best 1,103 yards. As a result, Potts has slimmed down and enters his senior year at 235 pounds, his playing weight as a senior at Rayville (La.) High School. But there's little about his precollege years that Potts likes to recall.

At age 12, he saw his father arrested and sentenced to a seven-year jail term. One year later, his mother died of a heart attack. Potts subsequently moved in with his grandmother. But when she died during his sophomore year of high school, Potts found himself living alone.

Potts remembers that he played football just to have a diversion from his complicated situation.

"Going to school was my only satisfaction that year," he said. "It was my chance to play a kid because after that, I had to play an adult. I had to work and take care of the house."

Also as a sophomore, Potts landed squarely in the middle of a conflict that would mark him as a felon and nearly derail what looked like a promising future in football. Following what Potts describes as a kill-or-be-killed showdown outside a bar in his hometown of Rayville, he was charged with one count of aggravated battery.

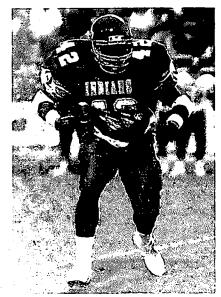
count of aggravated battery.

"It was a racial thing," Potts said.

"Rayville is run like in the old days.

When I moved back there after spending a few years in California (with his grandmother, who later moved back to Rayville with him), I wasn't ready for what I saw. I wasn't used to 'nigger this' and 'nigger that,' having to say 'yes, sir' to all white men. I wasn't used to slaving

"But trouble had been brewing for weeks, and I even told the police that



Slacker madel: Roosevelt Potts hopes his weight loss makes him an even better running back in 1992.

something was going to happen. Finally, these white dudes showed up outside the bar with guns, and it was do or die."

Potts says he fired his gun into the air and that his friend shot at the crowd of aggressors. No one was killed, but a few people were injured. When the legal dust had settled, Potts faced a prison term, which later was suspended. Potts also had to pay one-third of two victims' medical bills and serve five years of supervised probation, but the sentence allowed him to complete high school. He eventually signed with Northeast Louisiana, which prompted Mississippi Coach Billy Brewer, who had been recruiting Potts, to cry foul. He believed that Potts had received a light sentence in exchange for a promise to sign with a local college. Brewer later recanted his charges.

To make matters worse, Potts entered Northeast Louisiana as a Proposition 48 casualty. That only made his freshman year more of a daily hell.

But Potts had developed discipline during his year alone as a sophomore in high school. And he learned some valuable lessons in overcoming hardships after the shooting incident, when he moved in with his high school coach, Dan Andrews, and his wife, Ilean.

When Potts saw how Ilean, a former dancer, had to deal with multiple sclerosis and life in a wheelchair, he found a way to cope with his turmoil.

"I learned from her not to feel sorry for myself," he said. "You only make things worse if you do. There's nothing the past can do for you if you keep living in it."

PREDICTIONS

ORDER OF FINISH

- 1. NGRTHEAST LOUISIANA
- 2. McNEESE STATE
- 3. NORTHWESTERN STATE
- 4. SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE
- 5. SAM HOUSTON STATE
- 6. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE
- 7. NICHOLLS STATE
- 8. NORTH TEXAS

ALL-SOUTHLAND TEAM

OFFENSE

- Pos. Hame, School, Class
- WR VINCENT BRISBY, NE Louisiana, Sr.
- VR TIM FIELDS, Stephen F. Austin State, Sr.
- TE CARLOS TREADWAY, NW'ern State, Sr. T CHARLIE NELSON, SW Texas St., Jr.
- T MARCUS SPEARS, Northwestern St., Jr.
- C SAM BREAUX, McNeese State, Jr.
- G ANDY BELLAMY, NE Louisiana, Sr.
- G BLAYNE RUSH, McNeese State, Jr.
- QB WENDAL LOWREY, NE Louisiana, Sr.
- RB JARVIS LILLIE, Nicholls State, Sr.
- RB ROOSEVELT POTTS, NE Louisiana, Sr.

DEFENSE

- Pos. Name, School, Class
- DL VICTOR CARR, Southwest Texas State, Jr.
- DL ERIC KIDD, McNeese State, Jr.
- DL KEN NAQUIN, McNeese State, Sr.
- LB BENNIE BAZLEY, Northeast Louisiana, Sr.
- LB DANNY DAVIS, Southwest Texas St., Sr.
- LB TERRY IRVING, McNeese State, Jr.
- LB ED MOSES, Northwestern State, Jr.
- DB CHARMYST AMIE, S.F. Austin St., Sr.
- DB ADRIAN HARDY, Northwestern State, Sr. DB DARRYL POUNDS, Nicholls State, Soph.
- DB CEDRIC WALKER, S.F. Austin St., Jr.

SPECIALISTS

- Pos. Name, School, Class
- PK ROB TALLENT, Northeast Louisiana, Sr.
 - P PAT NECK, McNeese State, Jr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Roosevelt Potts, RB, NE Louisiana



DEFENSE: Terry Irving, LB, McNeese State

SOUTHWAND TEAM CHARTS

MCNEESE STATE

Coach: Bobby Keasler (11-10-2, 2 years). 1991 recerd: 6-4-2 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Southland: 4-1-2/T1st.

Key players: Eric Acheson, QB; Ron Alexander, CB; Sam Breaux, C; Brian Brumfield, S; Eric Fleming, LB; Lance Guidry, S; Adam Henry, WR; Terry Irving, LB; Kerry Joseph, QB; Eric Kidd, DT; Ken Naquin, DE; Pat Neck, P; Marty Posey, OG; Blayne Rush, OG; Dana Scott, DE; Lamar Thomas, S

Scott, or, Lanial Floridas, 5.

Strengths: Twenty starters return from the team that shared the league title. A defense that ranked third in I-AA returns 10 starters. The Cowboys will feature the league's best combination of linebackers and de-

fensive backs and its top punter.

Werknesses: McNeese State is still looking for one dominant running back. Quarterback Acheson was the league's Freshman of the Year, but he may be pushed by Joseph. Replacing All-Southland place-kicker Eric Roberts will be tough.

Outlook: The Cowboys have overachieved in both of Keasler's seasons as coach. His team has the best chance to stop Northeast Louisiana's juggernaut. Schools: Southwest Missouri State, Sept. 5; Northern

lowa, Sept. 12; at Nevada, Sept. 19; at Nicholis State, Sept. 26; Northeast Louislana, Oct. 10; Northwestern State, Oct. 17; at Southwest Texas State, Oct. 24; at North Texas, Oct. 31; at Stephen F. Austin State, Nov. 7; Sam Houston State, Nov. 14; at Weber State, Nov. 21.

Nicksams: Cowboys Site: Lake Charles, La.

NICHOLLS STATE

Coath: Phil Greco (26-28-1, 5 years). 1991 record: 4-7. Southland: 2-5/T6th.

Key players: Legantry Chaney, FB; Aaron Davis, TE; Tyrone Dominique, DE; Kevin George, DB; Brian Head, OL; Taras Hughes, DB; Brian Knowles, P; Jarvis Lillie, RB; Michael Morris, DE/LB; Royce Nel-son, OL; Darryl Pounds, DB; Jeey Primus, QB; Skip Shelton, K; Mark Thomas, FB; Mark Vice, LB.

Strengths: The secondary will excel. The running backs are decent, and changes at the linebacking

wasknasses: Six starters missed spring workouts, which forced Greco to alter the format of scrimmages. In the process, the Colonels learned they have almost no depth. The defense lacks size, and the passing game is mediocre.

Onlock: Nicholls State has quality in places, with seven starters back on each side of the ball. The

Oct. 24; Southern, Oct. 31; at North Texas, Nov. 7; at Northwestern State, Nov. 14; Troy (Ala.) State, Nov.

Hickname: Colonels. Site: Thibodaux, La.

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA

Coach: Dave Roberts (18-14-2, 3 years; 44-44-3 overall, 8 years). 1991 record: 7-3-1. Southland: 4-2-1/3rd.

Key players: Bennie Baziey, LB; Andy Bellamy, OG; Jeff Blackshear, OL; Baron Bradley, LB; Vincent Brisby, WR; James Folston, LB; Curtis Harrison, DB; Chris Hickman, DB; Ches Liles, QB; Wendal Lowrey, QB; Chad McCarty, P; Roosevelt Potts, RB; Darren Rimmer, NT; Rob Tallent, K; Wallace Toomer, LB/DE;

Victor Zordan, C.

Streagths: The Indians have the league's top two quarterbacks (Lowrey and Liles), best running back (Potts) and best receiver (Brisby). The kicking game is the Southland's best. The defense has some holes, but a new, aggressive approach could yield more sacks and turnovers.

Westnesses: All-America candidate Matt Shepherd left the team in the spring, creating a void at defensive tackles and three members of the secondary must be replaced, and the

battle between Lowrey and Liles could get nasty if the Indians start poorly

Outlook: Roberts must blend his newcomers with his veterans and find a way to get Potts the ball 20 to 25 times a game while still letting his quarterback cut loose. If the Indians can do those things, they'll have

loose. If the Incians can do mose unings, may in have a good season.
Schedule: At Nicholls State, Sept. 5; at Southwestern Louisiana, Sept. 12; at Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 19; Southwest Texas State, Sept. 26; Delta State (Miss.), Oct. 3; at McNeess State, Oct. 10; Sam Houston State, Oct. 17; at Northwestern State, Oct. 24; Eastern Washington, Nov. 7; Stephen F. Austin State, Oct. 14; at North Texas, Nov. 21.

Michaeme Indians

Mickname: Indians. Site: Monroe, La.

NORTH TEXAS

Coach: Dennis Parker (3-7-1, 1 year). 1991 record: 3-7-1. Southland: 2-5/T6th.

Ney players: 3-7-1. Soutmand: 2-5/16th.

Key players: Tomur Barnes, DB; David Brown, WR;
Noel Crum, DL; Scott Dukatnik, OL; Kent Englehardt,
OL; Scott Ford, WR; Delon Greene, DL; Willie Hughes,
LB; Mitch Maher, QB; Kevin McDaniel, K; Russel McMillan, DL; Joe Sampson, RB; Benny Valentine, QB;
Wayne Walker, OB; Keith Wilkerson, LB.

Strengths: North Texas has 15 seniors, which is 10 more than it had in '91. Receiver Brown and the entire backfield return, along with five seniors who

started on last year's defense.

Weaknesses: North Texas needs improvement at quarterback. It must replace its top tackler and shore up a mediocre secondary. Last year was the

start of a long rebuilding process.
Catiook: The Eagles should be improved, but they might not survive their non-conference schedule to

prove it.

Schedule: Abilene Christian, Sept. 5; at Southern Methodist, Sept. 12; at Southwest Missouri State, Sept. 19; at Texas, Sept. 26; Northwestern State, Oct. 10; at Stephen F. Austin State, Oct. 17; at Sam Houston State, Oct. 24; McNeese State, Oct. 31; Nicholis State, Nov. 7; at Southwest Texas State, Nov. 14; Northeast Louislana, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Eagles. Site: Denton, Tex.

NORTHWESTERN STATE

Coach: Sam Goodwin (50-48-3, 9 years; 59-59-4

overall, 11 years). 1991 record: 6-5. Southland: 4-3/T4th.

Key players: Darius Adams, S; Steve Brown, WR; Chris Gilliam, OB; Eric Goldman, DT; Adrian Hardy, CB; Guy Hedrick, FB; Brad Laird, QB; Antonio Lairy, NT; Ed Moses, LB; Bryan Roussell, DE; Marcus Spears, OT: Erod The OT; Fred Thompson, S; Carlos Treadway, TE; Trafton Trotter, RB; Curtis Wilkins, OG.

Strengths: Hardy heads a defense that has few holes. The offense should be more consistent than last year, when injuries wiped out the quarterback spot. Gilliam and Laird will share duties there, and tight

end Treadway is among the league's best.

Weaksesses: Other than replacing All-America line-backer Andre Carron, the Demons have few question backer Andre Carron, the Demons have lew question marks. But playing six games on turf at home could create injury problems.

Outlook: If the young quarterbacks continue to develop, the Demons could be a dark horse.

Schedule: Mississippi College, Sept. 5; at Troy (Ala.) State, Sept. 12; East Texas State, Sept. 26; at Arkan-sas State, Oct. 3; at North Texas, Oct. 10; at Mc-Neese State, Oct. 17; Northeast Louisiana, Oct. 24; Southwest Texas State, Oct. 31; Sam Houston State, Nov. 7; Nicholls State, Nov. 14; at Stephen F. Austin State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Demons. Sile: Natchitoches, La.

SAM HOUSTON STATE

Coach: Ron Randleman (58-53-1, 10 years; 145-95-

4 overall, 23 years). 1991 record: 8-3-1 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Southland: 5-2/T1st.

Key players: David Achilles, TE; Jimmy Armstrong, OT; Paul Cline, C; Tonzell Green, WR; Darryl Har-

rison, LB; Greenwood Horn, DE; Kevin Johnson, OT; Murrah Mayberry, OT; Jarvis Mayes, CB; Anthony Miller, LB; Kennedy Mitchell, DT; Charles Oliver, TB; Kevin Riley, S; Claude Stewart, SE; Ashley Van

Strengths: Both linebacker Harrison, the team's top tackler, and quarterback Van Meter, the squad's best athlete, return. The offensive line has outstand-

ing size and is one of the league's best.

Weeknesses: Sam Houston State lost eight starters from a defense that ranked among the nation's finest. The entire kicking corps must be replaced. Van Meter is injury-prone.

Outlook: Van Meter must produce in his final year,

and the Bearkats must play well on the road, where

and the Bearkats must play well on the road, where they play three of the league's top four teams.

Schedule: Western Illinois, Sept. 12; Angelo State (Tex.), Sept. 19; at Rice, Sept. 26; Alcorn State, Oct. 3; at Nicholls State, Oct. 10; at Northeast Louislana, Oct. 17; North Texas, Oct. 24; Stephen F. Austin State, Oct. 31; at Northwestern State, Nov. 7; at Mc-Neese State, Nov. 14; Southwest Texas State, Nov.

Nickname: Bearkats. Site: Huntsville, Tex.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE

Coach: Jim Bob Helduser (first year as head coach).

1991 reerd: 7-4. Southland: 4-3/T4th.

Key players: Victor Carr, DL; Danny Davis, LB; Danny
Faust, RB; Brad Hamilton, OT; Chet Hanks, NG; Craig Hemphill, S. John Hygh, QB; Delwin Manning, CB; Brian McCray, CB; Jeff Milward, LB; Scott Moore, WR; Chartie Nelson, OT; Dan Raasch, QG; Marto Sim-mons, LB; Scott Smith, FB; Maurice Williams, RB,

Strengths: Eight starters are back on each side of the ball. Southwest Texas has ranked among the I-AA leaders in rushing offense the last two years, and the return of two backfield regulars could continue that trend.

Weaknesses: Quarterback Gilbert Price, the league's Offensive Player of the Year, all-league safety Rod Woodard and the whole kicking game must be re-

placed.

Dutlock: Good size and strength along both fronts will help Southwest Texas stay in the race. The trick will be developing young talent on offense to compensate for the loss of Price's 1,791 total yards.

Schedule: At Texas A&I, Sept. 5; Texas Southern (at San Antonio), Sept. 12; Youngstown State, Sept. 19; at Northeast Louisiana, Sept. 26; Nicholis State, Oct.

3; Stephen F. Austin State, Oct. 10; McNeese State, Oct. 24; at Northwestern State, Oct. 31; at Prairie View A&M, Nov. 7; North Texas, Nov. 14; at Sam Houston State, Nov. 21.

Niekname: Bobcats. Site: San Marcos, Tex.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE

Cosch: John Pearce (first year as head coach).
1991 resord: 2-8-1. Southland: 1-5-1/8th.
Key players: Charmyst Amie, S. Leo Araguz, P. Wade
Booker, RB; Michael Bratsch, TE; E.L. Campbell, LB;
Michael Everhart, LB; Tim Fields, WR; Carlos Galvan, DT; Mike Goddard, QB; Scott Griggs, C; David Hemp-hill, OT; Reno Moore, FB; Terrance Shaw, CB; Cedric Walker, CB; Shawn York, WR.

Strangths: Receiver Fields will be among the nation's best kick returners. Defensive backs Amle and Walker may develop into All-Americas. Quarterback Goddard needs to turn his potential into production.

Weaknesses: Pearce's first duty is to coax more than 13.7 points per game out of his offense, which failed to score in double figures in five games last season. Outlook: Goddard must regain his record-setting form. of '90 because if the defense is on the field too long,

Stephen F. Austin will struggle.
Schedule: Arkansas-Monticello, Sept. 5; at Montana
State, Sept. 12; Jackson State, Sept. 19; Boise State,
Sept. 26; at Southwest Texas State, Oct. 10; North Texas, Oct. 17; Nicholls State, Oct. 24; at Sam Houston State, Oct. 31; McNeese State, Nov. 7; at Northeast Louisiana, Nov. 14; Northwestern State, Nov.

Nickusma: Lumberiacks. Site: Nacogdoches, Tex.

Text by Carl Dubois.

Landau's path to Grambling is as bizarre as pre-kick ritual

By CARL DUBOIS Lake Charles American Press

ilad Landau loves to tell his story as much as he enjoys kicking a football. His coaches and teammates are happy he does both at Grambling State.

Landau, who had never seen a football game before moving to America in April 1989, kicked well enough last year to earn mention on several All-America teams.

Now Landau dreams of playing in the National Football League, which is a far cry from his plans as a 21-year-old. when after wrapping up a three-year stint in the Israeli army he closed his eyes and pointed at a map of the United States. His finger landed on New Orleans, so that's where he headed.

"I wanted to see other cultures," Landau said.

Landau's search for culture ultimately led to Grambling, where he has made an immediate impact. His right foot provided the winning margin in four of the Tigers' five wins in 1991. For the year, Landau converted 34 of 36 extra-point attempts and 12 of 17 field goals. With that success, he won the hearts of his teammates.

"We call him Negative Zero," tight end Ron Simmons said. "Cool under pressure.

The path that Landau took from obscure Israeli soldier to respected college kicker is as bizarre as his appearance on the predominantly black Grambling campus.

After arriving in New Orleans in 1989. Landau found employment as a pipeline welder. When he wasn't working one Sunday afternoon, Landau stretched out on his sofa for a nap. The TV was on, and New Orleans Saints kicker Morten Andersen was lining up for a field goal. Unfamiliar with the game, Landau almost turned off the TV. But that's when it happened.

"He kicked the ball," Landau said, "and after that I saw all the people getting crazy. I thought, the guy just kicked a ball, you know? What are they getting crazy about?"

Landau, who had played soccer as a youth, thought he could do as well. He proceeded to practice and improve. Soon thereafter, Landau began contacting colleges but learned quickly that without experience, his chances at getting a scholarship were virtually nil. He then found out that in order for him to get into college to get experience, he needed to pass the SAT. So, he went to the nearest school and applied for the

"That was the turning point in my life," he said of seeking help at Isidore



A big hit: After just one year on the football team, Gilad Landau has become the most popular athlete at Grambling.

Newman High School, a posh, uptown New Orleans prep school. "The people there just opened their arms to me. Coach Tony Reginelli taught me how to be more serious about kicking."

He sent tapes of himself kicking to Division I-A and I-AA coaches, many of whom laughed when he phoned them in advance of the tape's arrival. He got a tutor in math and in English and passed the SAT.

When Landau called the major schools again, they were interested. But most coaches already had used up their allotment of scholarships—except for Grambling Coach Eddie Robinson.

So, it was off to Grambling for Landau. A quick learner, he adjusted to college life and has become the most popular athlete on campus.

Landau's trademark pre-kick ritual of holding his hands on top of his helmet and wiggling his fingers is one aspect of his popularity. But his teammates think his ritual is based on a New Orleans subculture.

"They think it's voodoo," said Landau, laughing, "It's just concentration, I'm not into voodoo.'

He is into Judaism, and he has taught some teammates about the nuances of his faith. In turn, he has learned from them, too. It's not unusual to hear Landau say, "What up?" and "Hey, home!" to his teammates, who are glad that Landau calls Grambling home.



. ALCORN STATE 2. ALABAMA STATE 3. TEXAS SOUTHERN

. JACKSON STATE

5. GRAMBLING STATE 6. SOUTHERN

7. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE 8. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

ALL SWAC TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class

STEVE BOOZE, Mississippi Valley St., Fr. MARCUS HINTON, Alcorn State, Soph.

TRACY COOK, Alcorn State, Jr.

REGINALD DAVIDSON, Jackson State, Sr.

ROMAN NELSON, Alabama State, Sr.

JOE BURCH, Texas Southern, Jr.

BILLY NORMAN, Grambling State, Sr.

JUSTIN SMITH, Alcorn State, Sr.

STEVE McNAIR, Alcorn State, Soph.

ERIC GANT, Grambling State, Jr. KERRY HENDERSON, Texas Southern, Sr.

DEFENSE

Pos. Name, School, Class

ERIC ALEXANDER, Mississippi Valley, Jr.

DAVIE CARPENTER, Miss. Valley, Sr

MICHAEL STRAHAN, Texas Southern, Sr.

ALONZO BROWN, Miss. Valley, Jr.

LB JERICH GREEN, Alabama State, Sr.

RONALD PERRY, Grambling State, Sr.

ANTHONY WALLACE, Texas Southern, Jr.

TERRY ARNOLD, Jackson State, Jr.

LATROD GARNER, Alabama State, Jr.

ERIC WARD, Alcorn State, Jr.

NAPOLEON WILLIAMS, Alcorn State, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Hama, School, Class

GILAD LANDAU, Grambling State, Soph.

KENDALL MABRY, Southern, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFFMSF: Steve McNair. QB, Alcorn State



DEFENSE: Michael Strahan, E. Texas Southern

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC TEAM CHART

ALABAMA STATE

Coach: Houston Markham (39-13-3, 5 years).
1991 record: 11-0-1. SWAC: 6-0-1/1st.
Key players: Paul Ashby, RB; Horace Brooks, WR;
Jacques Cothren, K; Kevin Fields, LB; Latrod Garner,
CB; Jerich Green, LB; Kurt Lavender, C; Sylvester
Longmire, CB; Eric Mathews, TE; Joey Naylor, DT;
Roman Nelson, OT; Tyrone Stewart, DT; Rico White,

NB.

Strengths: The Hornets have speed on offense and depth at linebacker, where Green will patrol. Winning can be habit forming, and last year's 11-0-1 season was the school's best in 82 years.

Wesknesse: The passing game needs rebuilding after losing quarterback Ricky Jones and receiver Reggie Brown. Two-time SWAC Defensive Player of the Year Eddio Rehisson will be release a likebacker and two Eddie Robinson will be missed at linebacker, and two new defensive ends must be found.

Outlook: If a quality stable of running backs helps take heat off the new quarterback and someone takes charge on defense, the Hornets could chal-

lenge for the title.

ienge for the title.
Sebsdule: At Southern, Sept. 12; at Alcorn State, Sept.
19; at Troy (Ala.) State, Sept. 26; Central State, O.
(at Indianapolis), Cct. 3; Jackson State, Oct. 10;
Texas Southern (at Mobile, Ala.), Oct. 17; Prairie
View A&M, Oct. 24; Alabama A&M (at Birmingham,
Ala.), Oct. 31; at Grambling State, Nov. 7; Mississippi Valley State, Nov. 44. One additional game had not yet been scheduled at deadline.

Hickness: Hornets. Site: Montgomery, Ala.

ALCORN STATE

ALGUHN SIATE

Coach: Cardell Jones (7-2-1, 1 year).
1991 record: 7-2-1. SWAC: 4-2-1/2nd.
Key players: Harry Brown, TB; Tracy Cook, TE;
Michael Ellis, OT; Fernando Evans, WR; Earnest
Fann, P; Marcus Hinton, WR; Lynn Lang, DT; Orrease May, DT; Steve McNair, DB; Justin Smith, OG;
Dennis Stevenson, LB; Patrick Varnado, LB; Eric
Ward, CB; Tracy Wiggins, DT; Napoleon Williams, S.
Strengths: McNair threw for 2,895 yards as a freshman and will continue to improve. The Braves averaged 35.7 points and 465.3 yards per game in '91 and
should put up similar numbers this fall. Eight defensive starlers return. Including sack specialists May sive starters return, including sack specialists May and Wiggins.

Weaknesses: Replacing receivers Torrance Small and Cedric Tillman will be difficult. Talented but untested newcomers must adjust to starting in a hurry at re-

Ceiver and on the offensive line.
Outlook: The players are still learning Jones' system, and McNair will become more dangerous as he fine-tunes his raw talent. Alcorn State probably won't go unbeaten, but no other team has as many weapons. The title is the Braves' to lose.

the une is the Braves to lose.

Schtdute Grambling State (at Shreveport, La.), Sept.

5; Alabama State, Sept. 19; at Howard, Sept. 26; at Sam Houston State, Oct. 3; Texas Southern, Oct. 10; at Prairie View A&M, Oct. 17; Southern, Oct. 24; at Jacksonville (Ala.) State, Oct. 31; at Mississippi Valley State, Nov. 7; Jackson State, Nov. 21.

Michamer Brauce

Nicknama: Braves. Site: Lorman, Miss.

GRAMBLING STATE

Cozch: Eddie Robinson (372-133-15, 49 years). 1991 record: 5-6. SWAC: 3-4/T6th.

Key players: Stevie Anderson, SE; Herman Arvie, OT; Norman Bradford, RB; Eric Bryant, OB/P; Dexter Butcher, RB; Larry Dykes, WB; Eric Gant, FB; Keith Jones, DT; Gilad Landau, K; Keith Marks, DE; Billy Norman, OG; Shane Oubre, S; Alex Perkins, OB; Ronald Perry, LB; Craigory Sam, C.

Strengths: The Tigers return three of four starters in the secondary, an area that must produce in the pass-happy SWAC. Fullback Gant is the offensive workhorse. The offensive and defensive lines are

Weaknesses: Despite having talent, the offense showed a lack of desire and the defense had trouble concentrating in big games last season. The Tigers need to polish their fundamentals after making too

many costly turnovers last season. Outlesk: With a game-winner like place-kicker Landau, Grambling has a chance to win most games, if it can keep them close. But without an improved defense, the Tigers may force Robinson to ponder retirement.

Schodele: Alcorn State (at Shreveport, La.), Sept. 5; Virginia Union (at East Rutherford, N.J.), Sept. 12; Tennessee State, Sept. 19; Delaware State, Sept. 26; Prairie View A&M (at Dallas), Oct. 3; Mississippi Valley State (at Chicago), Oct. 10; Jackson State, Oct. 24; at Texas Southern, Oct. 31; Alabama State, Nov. 7; at Florida A&M, Nov. 14; Southern (at New Orleans), Nov. 28.

Nickname: Tigers. Site: Grambling, La.

JACKSON STATE

Cosch: James Carson (first year as head coach).
1991 record: 5-5. SWAC: 3-4/T6th.
Key players: Terry Arnold, CB; Islah Bliss, WR/TE;
Percy Clay, S; Reginald Davidson, OT; Pheathur Edwards, DT; Lester Holmes, OT; James Johnson, RB; Ricky Jordan, QB: Antonious Kimbrough, WR; Ernest Pate, WR; Marto Perry, LB; Chad Riley, RB; Fernando Smith, LB; Robert Staten, FB; Bennie Tillman, QB.

Streagths: The offensive line, quarterback and run-ning backs are all veterans, and cornerback Arnold is one of the league's best. Hiring Carson, a 30-year assistant coach and Jackson State graduate, will help ensure continuity from the W.C. Gorden era.

Weaknesses: The defense is young, which could cause Carson (Jackson State's defensive coordinator from 1977-91) much woe. Few teams survive in the SWAC with holes on defense.

Outlook: With 12 starters back, Carson's first team will be competitive. But a young defense and a new defensive coordinator are a bad combination in a

defensive coordinator are a usu comunication in a transition year.

Schedule: Tuskegee (Ala.), Sept. 5; Tennessee State (at Memphis), Sept. 12; at Stephen F. Austin State, Sept. 19; Mississippi Valley State, Sept. 26; South Carolina State (at Columbia, S.C.), Oct. 3; at Alabama State, Oct. 10; at Southern, Oct. 17; at Grambling State, Oct. 24; Texas Southern, Nov. 7; Prairie View A&M, Nov. 14; at Alcorn State, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Tigers. Site: Jackson, Miss.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE

Coach: Larry Dorsey (12-9-1, 2 years).

1997 record: 7-3-1. SWAC: 3-3-1/T4th.

Key players: Eric Alexander, NG; Steve Booze, WR;
Alonzo Brown, LB; Ellis Brown, OT; James Butler, C;
Davie Carpenter, DT; Victor Cullen, WR; Tyrone
Foote, RB; Kenny Johnson, FB; Marlos McGee, LB;
Orlando McGraw, CB; Damon Prince, WR; Cliff Robinson, OB; Keith Wallace, DE/LB; Keivin Williams, S.
Strengths: Two of the league's top defensive linemen,
Alexander and Carpenter, will put pressure on opposing quarterbacks. Booze could emerge as the
league's most intimidating receiver.

Weaksesses: The Delta Devils lost nine starters on offense and seven on defense. That means young and

fense and seven on defense. That means young and/ or inexperienced players must man many key positions. Additionally, the special teams must be rebuilt. Ontlook: The Delta Devils were able to win three

Gutlook: The Delta Devils were able to win three SWAC games last year because they had the league's best pass defense. All of the ingredients except the pass rush are gone. Don't look for any improvement for at least a year.

Settaulis: Lane (Tenn.), Sept. 12; at Miles (Ala.), Sept. 19; at Jackson State, Sept. 26; at Southern, Oct. 3; Grambling State (at Chicago), Oct. 10; at Texas Southern, Oct. 24; Prairie View A&M, Oct. 31; Alcorn State, Nov. 7; at Alabama State, Nov. 14.

Nickassa: Delta Devils.

Site: Itta Bena, Miss.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

Cosch: Ronald Beard (0-11, 1 year). 1991 record: 0-11. SWAC: 0-7/8th.

1991 record: 0-11. SWAC: 0-7/8th.

Key players: Kerrick Arrington, TE; Dominique Artis, DB; Samuel Barner, P; Joseph Carter, OL; Jerrod Crowder, LB; Bo Gilliard, WR; Danny Huil, QB; Adrian Mosley, DB; Michael Newton, DB; Courtney Parham, DB; Alphonse Provo, LB; Andre Riser, RB; John Whitby, DL; Julius Whitby, FB; Tony Woods, LB.

Stresgis: Gilliard caught more passes (68) than any other receiver in the SWAC last year, but only three went for touchdowns. The Panthers will be better prepared for '92 after playing last season without the benefit of a complete spring session and scholarship

athletes. Barner is a good punter,

Wesknesses: The Panthers ranked last in the league in total offense and total defense. Prairie View was outscored 617-48 last year but got less national sympathy than its winless basketball team.

Outlook: With its budget near the poverty line and its recruiting hurt by a lack of available scholarships, Prairie View can't have much optimism. Until further notice, the Panthers are an automatic win for all

SWAC opponents.

Schedule: At Texas Southern, Sept. 5; Angelo State (Tex.), Sept. 12; Langston (Okla.), Sept. 19; Grambling State (at Dallas), Oct. 3; at West Texas State, Oct. 10; Alcorn State, Oct. 17; at Alabama State, Oct. 24; at Mississippi Valley State, Oct. 31; Southwest Texas State, Nov. 7; at Jackson State, Nov. 14; Southern, Nov. 21.

Nickgame: Panthers. Site: Prairie View, Tex.

SOUTHERN

Coach: Marino Casem (14-8, 2 years; 155-85-8

overall, 25 years). 1991 record: 4-7. SWAC: 4-3/3rd.

1991 record: 4-7. SWAC: 4-3/3rd.

Key players: Kenny Addison, DL; Jimmy Conner, LB;
Dennis Craig, OL; Mathew Dorsett, DB; Tyran Driver,
DL; Alden Foster, FB; Michael Green, WR; Marshall
Hayes, OL; Charles Johnson, DL; Cornell Johnson,
WR; Kendall Mabry, P; Richard Montgomery, DL; Renard Robinson, WR; Lindsey Scott, RB; Eric West,
WR; Keith Woods, WR; Charles Wright, QB.
Straughts: The Jaguars finally seemed to find some
on-field discipline in spring drills. New offensive coordinator Archie Cooley, who engineered the explosive Mississippi Valley State teams in the 1980s, has
installed a multitude of formations that will feature
three and four receivers.

three and four receivers.

three and four receivers.

Weeknesses: Wright emerged in the spring as the top quarterback, but Casem is not sold on him. Some of the more sophisticated changes on offense and defense have yet to be mastered.

Ostlock: Southern locked like a program in disarray—from the administration down to the players—after the control of the

posting its second straight 4-7 record last year. Now one of the administrators, Casem, is on the sidelines. But don't expect any miracles.

But don't expect any miracles. Schedule: Alabama State, Sept. 12; South Carolina State (at Atlanta), Sept. 19; Mississippi Valley State, Oct. 3; Winston-Salem (N.C.) State (at Shreveport, La.), Oct. 10; Jackson State, Oct. 17; at Alcorn State, Oct. 24; at Nicholis State, Oct. 31; Florida A&M, Nov. 7; Toxas Southern, Nov. 14; at Prairle View A&M, Nov. 21; Grambling State (at New Orleans), Nov. 28.

Hickname: Jaquars. Site: Baton Rouge, La.

TEXAS SOUTHERN

Coach: Walter Highsmith (12-18-2, 3 years).
1991 record: 5-5-1. SWAC: 3-3-1/74th.
Key players: Joe Burch, C; Donnie Ellis, DB; Kerry
Henderson, RB; Kevin Johnson, DE; Stephen McKnight, K; Stacy Moore, OB; Johnathan Muhammad,
K; Keith Patterson, LB; Joe Rogers, WR; Michael
Strahan, DE; Hearnie Thomas, CB; Jessie Ulmer, DL;
Asthany Millore, IB. Anthony Wallace, LB.

Strengths: Quarterback Moore and running back Henderson could combine for over 3,000 yards. End Strahan may be the dominant defensive player in the

tragge.

Weatnesses: The first priority is to develop the passing game's big-play capability. To do that, a new group of receivers must contribute immediately. The Tigers have a habit of running out of gas, as last year's team lost three of its last four games.

year's team lost three of its last four games.
Outlook: Texas Southern is one of the strongest teams behind SWAC powerhouse Alcorn State. But a few breaks could put the Tigers on top.
Schedule: Prairie View A&M, Sept. 5; Southwest Texas State (at San Antonio), Sept. 12; Central State, O. (at Columbus, O.), Sept. 26; Knoxville (Tenn.), Oct. 3; at Alcorn State, Oct. 10; Alabama State (at Mobile, Ala.), Oct. 17; Mississippi Valley State, Oct. 24; Grambling State, Oct. 31; at Jackson State, Nov. 7; at Southern, Nov. 14; at Nevada, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Tigers. Site: Houston.

Text by Carl Dubois.

Getting attention is no small feat for Villanova QB Tom Colombo

By JOE BURRIS Boston Globe

t's easy to overlook a player like Villanova's Tom Colombo.

During football practice last spring, most of the pro scouts' attention was focused on Villanova's hulking offensive tackles, big tight ends and large linebackers. Players of that size made a 5-foot-7, 159-pound quarterback like Colombo look like a boy among men.

"Hey, can any of you guys use a 5-7 drop-back quarterback? I think I can play for you guys," Colombo said to the scouts who were speaking to his teammates after a spring practice. "Just joking," he added quickly, knowing the scouts would not have taken him seriously even if he had meant it.

Colombo has grown accustomed to not being taken seriously. He was labeled too small to play quarterback at perennial football power Brockton (Mass.) High School, where he led the team to two state titles while passing for over 5,000 yards and 85 touchdowns in his career.

He was labeled too small to play college football. Villanova was the only school that showed any interest in Colombo, who joined the team as a walkon after his father, Brockton Coach Armond Colombo, talked Villanova Coach Andy Talley into it.

After being redshirted in 1988, Colombo earned a scholarship in 1989 and served as the team's third-string quarterback. In 1990, he competed for the starting position and won. He started the first six games before injuring his right ankle, which forced him to miss the rest of the season. As a result, he again had to battle for the starting job before the '91 season. And once again, he prevailed.

Injury-free and determined to prove his critics wrong, Colombo guided Villanova to a 10-2 mark (the most wins in school history) and a share of the Yankee Conference championship. He completed 214 of 342 passes for 2,540 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Those numbers are impressive, but not as impressive as the grit and determination that Colombo has displayed in his quest for respect. Those qualities are not foreign to other members of his family. His uncle also was told that he was too small to succeed as a boxer, but he proved the skeptics wrong. His uncle was heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano, who was the brother of Colombo's mother.

"My Uncle Rock should have never done what he did," said Colombo of his 5-10 overachieving relative. "But he overcame the odds and earned the greatest honor in the sports world. That



Little big man: Villanova's Tom Colombo lacks height, but he isn't short on talent.

made me realize that if you have to accomplish something, you had to work for it."

With perhaps one of the strongest arms in college football, Colombo knows the only thing separating him from speaking with pro scouts is about six inches of vertical bone structure. But he isn't bothered by the fact that the pros are ignoring him because he has more immediate goals for his senior season. He hopes to help the Wildcats pick up where they left off last season, when the team lost in the first round of the Division I-AA playoffs to eventual champion Youngstown State. Still, he'd like a chance to play professionally in Europe or Canada.

'Getting looked over by scouts . . . is frustrating to a point," he said. "But I just enjoy what I do so much that I stop worrying about things I can't do or might not get a chance to do because of my height. It's been like that for as long as I remember, even since little league.

"I was always the smallest guy on the team. It hasn't changed all the way up to college. So I don't worry about that now."

ORDER OF FINISH

- 1. DELAWARE
- 2. VILLANOVA
- 3. NEW HAMPSHIRE
- 4. CONNECTICUT
- 5. BOSTON UNIVERSITY
- 6. MAINE
- 7. RHODE ISLAND
- 8. MASSACHUSETTS
- 9. RICHMOND

ALL-YANKEE TEAM

OFFENSE

Name, School, Class

ALEX DAVIS, Connecticut, Sr. JOHN PERRY, New Hampshire, Sr. WR

DARREN RIZZI, Rhode Island, Sr.

DAN JONES, Maine, Sr. BILL LACEY, Villanova, Sr.

TIM TARPEY, Villanova, Sr.

RANDY CRANE, Villanova, Sr.

MARK SCHNEIBLE, New Hampshire, Sr.

TOM COLOMBO, Villanova, Sr.

BARRY BOURASSA, New Hampshire, Sr.

DARYL BROWN, Delaware, Soph.

DEFENSE

Name, School, Class

CHRIS GRYCHOWSKI, Villanova, Sr.

MARK HRUBAR, Delaware, Sr.

HAROLD THOMAS, Boston University, Jr.

ANDY COBAUGH, Villanova, Sr.

CURTIS ELLER, Villanova, Sr.

DWAYNE GORDON, New Hampshire, Sr.

ERIC JOHNSON, Richmond, Sr.

BARRY ALVIS, Villanova, Sr.

DON CAPAROTTI, Massachusetts, Sr.

GREG LEWIS, New Hampshire, Sr.

WARREN McINTIRE, Delaware, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

Name, School, Class

LANCE HJELTE, New Hampshire, Jr.

TODD BARTON, Richmond, Jr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Barry Bourassa. **RB**, New Hampshire



DEFENSE: Curtis Eller. LB. Villanova

ANKEE TEAM

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Coach: Dan Allen (9-13, 2 years). 1991 record: 4-7, Yankee: 3-5/T4th.

Rey players: Andrew Brennan, LB; Zack Burwell, RB; Jason Goldberg, OT: Carnell Henderson, WR; Ken Larson, LB; Scott Mallory, WR; Greg Moore, OB; Walter Norton, OB; Mike Overton, WR; Gavin Palmer, LB; Chris Schrock, P; Harold Thomas, DL.

Straggies: Four of five starters return along the of-fensive front. Mallory, who could be one of the league's best receivers, could make things signifi-cantly easier for Moore, who returns after a serious thumb injury. The linebacking is solid, with Brennan the one to watch.

Weaknesses: Who totes the ball now that four-year veteran Jay Hillman is gone? The Terriers will have problems stopping the run since Thomas is the only true holdover on the defensive line.

ordisok: The program is showing some life. Burwell must emerge in the backfield, and the linebackers need to compensate for an unproven defensive front. Sebtadle: At Temple, Sept. 5; at William & Mary, Sept. 19; at Massachusetts, Sept. 26; Villanova, Oct. 3; at Delaware, Oct. 10; Richmond, Oct. 17; at Rhode island, Oct. 24; New Hampshire, Oct. 31; at Maine, Nov. 7; Connecticut, Nov. 14; Northeastern, Nov. 21. Nickoame: Terriers.

CONNECTICUT

Coach: Tom Jackson (51-46, 9 years).

Site: Boston.

Coach: Tom Jackson (51-46, 9 years).
1991 record: 3-8. Yankee: 2-6/T7th.
Key players: Mark Chapman, S; David Daignault, OG;
Leonard Dandridge, TB; Alex Davis, SE; Tom DeSarno, OB/P; Doug Harkins, LB (RS/knee); Brian
Kozlowski, TE; Ed Long, TB; Scott Mitchell, S.
Streagths: Long and Dandridge are perfect complements in the backfield. Davis has big-play capabilities on the outside. Mitchell gives the secondary

some much-needed athleticism.

Weaknesses: The defensive front and secondary are

Outlook: After years with a predominantly young coaching staff, Jackson brought in established offensive and defensive coordinators. As usual, the Huskies will score points but have problems contain-

ing the opposition.

Schedule: New Haven (Conn.), Sept. 5; at New Hampshire, Sept. 12; at Northeastern, Sept. 26; Yale, Oct. 3; Villanova, Oct. 10; at Massachusetts, Oct. 17; Maine, Oct. 24; Richmond, Oct. 31; at Delaware, Nov. 7; at Boston University, Nov. 14; Rhode Island, Nov.

Mickgame: Huskies. Site: Storrs, Conn.

DELAWARE

Coach: Harold R. (Tubby) Raymond (212-85-2, 26

1991 record: 10-2 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Yankee: 7-1/T1st.

Key players: Daryl Brown, FB; Mark Hrubar, DL; Tim Jacobs, DB; Keita Malloy, WR; Warren McIntire, DB; Bill Vergantino, QB.

Strengths: Vergantino likely will finish as Division I-AA's career rushing leader among quarterbacks.
And he can throw the ball, too. There are three running backs-Brown is the smoothest-who had

ning packs—Brown is the smoothest—who had 100-yard rushing games a year ago. McIntire is something special in the secondary.

Weaksesses: Few. The kicking game, which lacks experienced operatives, is a possible problem area. Outlack: Once again, a deep Delaware team has the makings of a national contender.

Scheduler Massachusette. Sont 12: Bhada Island.

Rehedule: Massachusetts, Sept. 12; Rhode Island, Sept. 19; West Chester (Pa.), Sept. 26; at New Hampshire, Oct. 3; Boston University, Oct. 10; at Vil-lanova, Oct. 17; at Navy, Oct. 24; at Maine, Oct. 31; Connecticut, Nov. 7; at Richmond, Nov. 14; Towson State, Nov. 21.

Hicksame: Blue Hens. Site: Newark, Dei.

MAINE

Cosch: Kirk Ferentz (6-16, 2 years). 1991 record: 3-8. Yankee: 2-6/T7th.

Key players: Emilio Colon, QB; Jason Cue, QB; Dick Donahue, QT; Dan Girard, LB; Fred Harner, QT; Lorenzo Harris, LB; Jemai Murph, LB; Corey Parker, DE; Mark Shaw, TE; Ben Sirmans, TB.

DE; MARK Shaw, IE; Ben Sirmans, IB.
Strengths: The Black Bears finally have some depth at quarterback with sophomore Colon and Rutgers transfer Cue. Elsewhere, the pickings are slim.
Westnesses: Linebacker Marc Dube, a Canadian, left early for the Canadian Football League, creating an unexpected void on an already-shaky defense. Maine allowed 34 or more points six times last sea-son. Graduation took a toll in the offensive backfield. Outlook: The Black Bears moved the ball at times last year, but they seldom deterred anyone. The story

year, but they school deterred anyone. The story could be much the same this year.

Setudate: New Hampshire, Sept. 5; Kutztown (Pa.), Sept. 12; Northeastern, Sept. 19; at Richmond, Oct. 3; Rhode Island, Oct. 17; at Connecticut, Oct. 24; Delaware, Oct. 31; Boston University, Nov. 7; at Massachusetts, Nov. 14; at Villanova, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Black Bears.

Site: Orono, Me.

MASSACHUSETTS

Cosch: Mike Hodges (first year as head coach).
1991 reserd: 4-7. Yankee: 3-5/T4th.
Key players: Donald Caparotti, CB; John Creamer, DT;
John Johnson, TB; Philip Lartigue, LB; Andrew LeBlanc, C; Dave McGovern, QB; Mario Perry, LB; Andy
Rice, QG; Tony Williams, CB.

Strengths: Caparotti and Perry, who was felled with an ankle injury in the first game of 1991, give the Minutemen a couple of honors candidates on defense. Offensively, McGovern showed that he might evolve into a premier option quarterback. Tallback Johnson is a past Yankee Conference Rockle of the

Weaknesses: Williams, a former quarterback, is at-tempting a move to cornerback. It certainly is not a position for the uninitiated in this pass-happy league. On offense, there were major losses on the line and McGovern has just three collegiate starts.

Cuttook: Coach Jim Reid left the program when he discovered that the university had forbidden him to discovered that the university had forbidden him to award scholarships for this past recruiting class. There's some talent on this team, especially at the skill positions, but there now are serious questions concerning the stability of the program. Setsdule: At Delaware, Sept. 12; at Holy Cross, Sept. 19; Boston University, Sept. 26; at Rhode Island, Oct. 10; Connecticut, Oct. 17; Villanova, Oct. 24; Northeastern, Oct. 31; at Richmond, Nov. 7; Maine, Nov. 14: at New Hampshire, Nov. 21.

14; at New Hampshire, Nov. 21.

Nicksame: Minutemen. Site: Amherst, Mass.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Coach: Bill Bowes (131-73-4, 20 years). 1991 record: 9-3 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs). Yankee: 7-1/T1st.

Key players: Ron Baisden, S; Barry Bourassa, RB; Nate Bryan, CB; John Donnelly, TE; Steve Dunn, DT; David Gamblé, WR; Dwayne Gordon, LB; Rich Green, OB; Lance Hjelte, K; Greg Lewis, CB; John Perry, WR; Mark Schneible, GG.

Strengths: Bourassa is simply one of the nation's great talents. He runs with the ball, catches it and returns kicks. Gamble has a chance to become one of the league's best receivers. On defense, the second-ary returns three quality starters, with Lewis rank-

ing as the leader.

Weaknesses: The Wildcats' lines—offensive and defensive—were hit hard by graduation, although standout guard Schneible returns. The Wildcats lost some key players on defense and must rebuild.

some key piayers on defense and must rebuild.
Outleok: As usual, the Wildcats are long on talented skill-position players. If the lines can mature swiftly, New Hampshire could compete for the Yankee title. Schedule: At Maine, Sept. 5; Connecticut, Sept. 12; at Lehigh, Sept. 1; Dartmouth, Sept. 26; Delaware, Oct. 3; at Richmond, Oct. 10; Northeastern, Oct. 24; at Boston University, Oct. 31; Villanova, Nov. 7; at Rhode Island, Nov. 14; Massachusetts, Nov. 21. Nilkensme: Wildcats. Nickname: Wildcats.

Site: Durham, N.H.

RHODE ISLAND

Coach: Bob Griffin (78-97-1, 16 years; 99-117-1

overall, 20 years). 1991 record: 6-5. Yankee: 3-5/T4th.

Key players: Marty Coyne, LB; Peter Doremus, LB; Pat Hughes, OL; Brian Merritt, DB; Chris Pierce, WR; Darren Rizzi, TE: Richard Rouser, RB; Tony Squitteri,

Streagths: The linebacking is solid with three-year starter Doremus and Syracuse transfer Coyne. Merritt makes the big hits in the secondary. There are few pass catchers around with Rizzi's abilities.

Weeknesses: There are serious problems along the of-fensive front. The Rams lost sophomore running back Dario Highsmith to an off-season injury.

Outlack: The Rams have great team speed. The fortunes of the offensive and defensive lines will be cru-

ciai.

Schedule: Towson State, Sept. 12; at Delaware, Sept.

1; Richmond, Sept. 26; at Hofstra, Oct. 3; Massachusetts, Oct. 10; at Maine, Oct. 17; Boston University, Oct. 24; at Villanova, Oct. 31; at Northeastern, Nov. 7; New Hampshire, Nov. 14; at Connecticut, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Rams. Site: Kingston, R.I.

RICHMOND

Cosch: Jim Marshall (4-29, 3 years). 1991 record: 2-9. Yankee: 2-6/T7th. Key players: Todd Barton, P/K; Rod Boothes, WR; Sterling Brown, WR; Mike Davis, NG; Jeff Edmiston, LB; Eric Johnson, LB; Matt Joyce, DT; Greg Lilly, QB; Scott Mahone, FB; Edmond Mintah, LB; Curtis Moore, C; Uly Scott, RB.

Strugths: The Lilly-to-Brown combination has tre-mendous potential for success. Scott and Mahone nemous potential for success. Scott and mainted are experienced and talented players out of the backfield. Johnson averaged an eye-popping 16.3 tackles per game last season. He's All-America ma-terial. Edmiston's presence is a real plus.

Weaknesses: Beyond the linebacking corps, there are concerns about the rest of the defense. The entire secondary will be made up of untested sophomores. Cuttook: The Spiders can only get better after winning just four of 33 games under Marshall. The addition of Jim Reid, former Massachusetts coach, as offensive

coordinator should help. Schedele: James Madison, Sept. 12; at Villanova, Sept. 19; at Rhode Island, Sept. 26; Maine, Oct. 3; New Hampshire, Oct. 10; at Boston University, Oct. 17; Virginia Military Institute (at Norfolk), Oct. 24; at Connecticut, Oct. 31; Massachusetts, Nov. 7; Delaware, Nov. 14; William & Mary, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Spiders.

8ite: Richmond, Va.

VILLANOVA

Coach: Andy Talley (48-21-1, 7 years; 75-39-2 overall, 12 years). 1991 record: 10-2 (including 0-1 in I-AA playoffs).

Yankee: 7-1/T1st.

Key players: Barry Alvis, S; Andy Cobaugh, LB; Tom Colombo, QB; Randy Crane, OG; Phil DiMaria, LB; Scott Donald, TE; Curtis Eller, LB; Chris Grychowski, DT; Jeff Johnson, FB; Bill Lacey, OT; Tim Tarpey, C. Strengths: Offense, defense and special teams. Colombo makes this offense go with his fearless brand of quarterbacking. Eller's the cog on defense, which ranked second in I-AA a year ago. He has a terrific group of linemen in front of him. And the secondary seems to pick off everything.

Weaknesses: Two offensive linemen graduated, so there's a chance that the forward wall won't be par-

there's a chance that the forward wall won't be par-ticularly strong. But don't bet en it. Outlock: Villanova is thinking national champion-ship—and why not? Everything seems to be in place. Schedele: West Chester (Pa.), Sept. 4; Bucknell, Sept. 12; Richmond, Sept. 19; at Boston University, Oct. 3; at Connecticut, Oct. 10; Delaware, Oct. 17; at Mas-sachusetts, Oct. 24; Rhode Island, Oct. 31; at New Hampshire, Nov. 7; Fordham, Nov. 14; Maine, Nov.

Nickname: Wildcats. Sits: Villanova, Pa.

> Text by Adrian Wojnarowski, Waterbury Republican-American.

Youngstown State's Jim Tressel proves to be chip off the block

By TOM WHEATLEY St. Louis Post-Dispatch

n here are many ways to work your way into the NCAA football record book. Maybe the most sentimental way is the route taken by Youngstown State Coach Jim Tressel, because he traveled with his father. Dr. Lee Tressel.

When Jim Tressel guided Youngstown State to the Division I-AA national championship last year, the Tressels became the first father-son combination to win NCAA football titles. The late Lee Tressel won an NCAA Division III championship at Baldwin-Wallace (O.) in 1978.

"I haven't had him with me since '81," Jim said, "but he certainly has been with me spiritually. And everything he left me with, from a legacy standpoint and an experience standpoint, carried over.

"I watched him all my life, and I played for him for four years at Baldwin-Wallace. I learned that you've got to have a philosophy and follow that and be comfortable with who you are."

It's not always easy forging your own identity when your father is an Ohio football coaching legend and you're an aspiring football coach in Ohio. Aside from winning that national title, Lee Tressel posted a sparkling 155-52-6 career record at Baldwin-Wallace.

But Jim, 39, appears to be making his mark. He owns a 46-28 record (including 12-3 last year) at Youngstown State since taking over the program in December 1985. His teams have participated in the I-AA playoffs in four of the last five seasons, including the last three.

Tressel knows that a great deal of his success can be attributed to his father.

"At Baldwin-Wallace, our home was next door to the stadium," he said. "It was owned by the school, a little old brick house. I got to watch him every

What he learned from his father transcended football strategy. "It's been the way he treated the kids and cared for them," he said. "Your status as a football player didn't matter to him."

As much as his father meant to him. Tressel did not get bogged down in the father-son championship angle during Youngstown's playoff run last year.

"It really didn't hit home about that father-son opportunity until a couple days before (the championship) game," he said. "It started with a Cleveland writer who said, 'I don't know if anyone's ever won father-son titles.'

The Penguins enjoyed some good fortune during their championship march last year-so much, in fact, that at



Like father, like son: By guiding Youngstown State to the Division I-AA title last year, Jim Tressel joined his father, Lee, as the only father-son combination to win NCAA football titles.

times it seemed as if someone was looking over Tressel's shoulder.

Youngstown squeezed past visiting Villanova, 17-16, in the first round. "We kicked a field goal with one second left to win," Tressel said.

In the second round, Youngstown beat unbeaten and top-ranked Nevada on the Wolf Pack's home field, 30-28. "They had won 25 in a row at home," Tressel said, "and they missed a field goal with one second left to lose."

The Penguins returned home for their third-round game, blanking Samford, 10-0. That set up the title game against Marshall on a neutral field at Statesboro, Ga. In that contest. Youngstown fell behind, 17-6, before rallying for a 25-17 victory.

"We scored 19 unanswered points in the fourth quarter," Tressel said.

While Tressel appreciated the second-generation title, it may have meant even more to his mother, Eloise.

"It was nice," Tressel said, "She had gotten a lot of attention after the (title) game by the media, since Youngstown is only 75 miles from Cleveland, where she lives.'

Jim is getting attention, too, even though he has to split it with his father.

'You could picture the phrase, 'If you're anything like your dad, you're a pretty good guy,' " Jim said. "Some people were nice enough to say that to me. And I think that's a pretty good calling card."



ORDER OF FINISH

- 1. YOUNGSTOWN STATE
- 2. SAMFORD
- 3. JAMES MADISON
- 4. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
- **5. CENTRAL FLORIDA**
- 6. LIBERTY
- 7. WILLIAM & MARY
- 8. WESTERN KENTUCKY
- 9. NORTHEASTERN
- **10. TOWSON STATE**

ALL INDEPENDENTS TEAM

OFFENSE

- Pos. Name, School, Class
- COREY LUDWIG, William & Mary, Sr. DAVID McLEOD, James Madison, Jr.
- BRYAN FISHER, Samford, Sr. VINCE NOBLITT, Samford, Jr.

 - REX NOTTAGE, Georgia Southern, Sr.
 - BRYANT BOWDEN, Liberty, Sr.
 - GREG LOHR, Towson State, Sr.
 - CHRIS THURMAN, James Madison, Sr.
- ERIQ WILLIAMS, James Madison, Sr.
- WILLIE ENGLISH, Central Florida, Sr.
- KENNY SIMS, James Madison, Sr.

DEFENSE

- Namo, School, Class
- ALEX MASH, Georgia Southern, Jr.
- MARK TYLER, William & Mary, Sr.
- CHRIS VECCHIONE, Youngstown St., Sr.
- NICK DAVIS, Georgia Southern, Sr.
- MARCUS EVANS, Youngstown State, Sr. RICK HAMILTON, Central Florida, Sr.
- OLLIE SANDERS, Samford, Sr.
- MARCUS DURGIN, Samford, Jr.
- DAVE ROBERTS, Youngstown State, Sr.
- MARK SALISBURY, Northeastern, Jr.
- PALMER SCARRITT, William & Mary, Sr.

SPECIALISTS

- Name, School, Class
- DANIEL WHITEHEAD, Liberty, Soph.
- BRANDON TSETSILAS, Northeastern, Sr.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



Erlq Williams. QB, James Madison



DEFENSE: Ollie Sanders. LB, Samford

INDEPENDENTS TEAM CHARTS

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Coach: Gene McDowell (48-33, 7 years).

1991 record: 6-5. Key players: Bret Cooper, WR; Mike Dickinson, WR; Willie English, TB; Rick Hamilton, LB; Darin Hinshaw, QB.

Strengths: English (1,388 yards) is talented and durable. Cooper and Dickinson have good speed. Ham-

ilton keys an aggressive, veteran defense. Weeknesses: Hinshaw, a part-time starter a season

Wethnesses: Hinshaw, a part-time starter a season ago, must produce or give up the offensive reins. The offensive line could use some revamping.
Othlock: Just a year after making the I-AA semifinals, McDowell's team slipped to 6-5 in 1991. The 1992 Knights have playoff potential.
Schedie: Gardner-Webb (N.C.), Sept. 5; Bethune-Cookman, Sept. 12; Troy (Ala.) State, Sept. 19; at Western Illinois, Sept. 26; Savannah (Ga.) State, Oct. 3; Nicholls State, Oct. 17; at Western Kentucky, Oct. 24; at Liberty, Oct. 31; Buffalo, Nov. 7; James Madison, Nov. 14; at Samford, Nov. 21.
Nicksame: Knights.

Nicksame: Knights. Site: Orlando, Fla.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Coach: Tim Stowers (19-7, 2 years).

1891 record: 7-4.

Key players: Nick Davis, LB; Darlus Dawson, LB; Joe
Dupree, QB; Ronald Johnson, DE; Alex Mash, DT; Rex
Nottage, OT; Terrence Cdoms, NG; Terrence Sorreli,

SE; Darren Willis, SE; Chris Wright, SB. Strengths: Dupree, best known for his running, started one game as a freshman at I-A Georgia before leaving Athens. He should be a force. Mash alone

leaving Athens. He should be a force, Mash alone makes the defensive front formidable. Davis and Dawson are among I-AA's most feared defenders.

Walnesses: The entire defensive secondary must be replaced. The running game may suffer, too, with the top three backs from '91 having departed.

Outlook: Dupree's arrival in Statesboro could be the

difference as Georgia Southern bids for a playoff spot after a year's absence

atter a year's absence.

8cttolie: Florida A&M, Sept. 5; Valdosta (Ga.) State,
Sept. 12; Savannah (Ga.) State, Sept. 19; at Furman,
Sept. 26; at Georgia, Oct. 10; James Madison, Oct.
17; Jacksonville (Ala.) State, Oct. 24; Middle Tennessee State, Oct. 31; Mississippi College, Nov. 7;
Troy (Ala.) State, Nov. 14; at Youngstown State,
Nov. 21 Nov. 21.

Mickname: Eagles. 8ite: Statesboro, Ga.

JAMES MADISON

Coach: Rip Scherer (9-4, 1 year). Lores: Rip Scherer (9-4, 1 year).
1991 recert: 9-4 (including 1-1 in I-AA playoffs).
Key players: Anthony Archer, WR; Elvin Brown, FB;
Billy Johnson, LB; David McLeod, WR; Kenny Sims,
TB; Chris Sullivan, DT; Chris Thurman, OG; Eriq Williams, QB.

Itams, UB.

Strangtha: An offense that averaged 413.8 yards per outing last year returns most of its punch. Williams, the most prolific passer in James Madison history, and Sims, a 1,459-yard rusher, head the cast.

Weeknesses: The Dukes' top three tacklers are gone, taking four other first-string defenders with them.

Outlook: Expect some real shootouts, with Williams,

Solms and Co. prevailing more often than not.
Schedule: At Virginia Tech, Sept. 5; at Richmond,
Sept. 12; Hofstra, Sept. 19; at Youngstown State,
Sept. 26; Northeastern, Oct. 3; Appalachian State,
Oct. 10; at Georgia Southern, Oct. 17; at Towson
State, Oct. 24; William & Mary, Oct. 31; Liberty, Nov. 7; at Central Florida, Nov. 14.

Mickneme: Dukes. 8ite: Harrisonburg, Va.

LIBERTY

Coach: Sam Rutigliano (18-14, 3 years).

1991 record: 4-7

Key players: Bryant Bowden, C; Dion Cook, WR; Paul Frazier, LB; Tim Hahn, TE; Larkin Harsey, DE; Robby Justino, QB; Wesley McConnell, CB; James Mc-Knight, WR; Daniel Whitehead, K. Strengthe: First, there's Justino, who threw for 3,176

yards last season. A pair of speedsters, Cook and McKnight, are his top two targets. The defensive line is sturdy. Whitehead has dead-eye accuracy. Weaksses: The defense may tend toward the porous

side, especially in the backfield. Justino (21 Interceptions) must be more patient.

Outlook: Fifteen returning starters signal hop Sebedele: At Furman, Sept. 5; Morgan State, Sept. 12; Concord (W.Va.); Sept. 19; North Carolina A&T, Sept. 19; at Towson State, Oct. 3; Troy (Ala.) State, Oct. 17; at Northern Illinois, Oct. 24; Central Florida, Oct. 31; at James Madison, Nov. 7; Delaware State, Nov. 14; Kutztown (Pa.), Nov. 21. Nickname: Flames.

Site: Lynchburg, Va.

NORTHEASTERN

Cosch: Barry Gallup (4-7, 1 year). 1991 record: 4-7.

Key players: Raiph Barone, QB; Randy Dodd, OT; Tony Morgan, TB; Mark Salisbury, DB; Branden Tsetsilas, WR/P; Byron Turner, DE. Streagils: Lock for Barone to sizzle in Gallup's wide-

open offense. Tsetsilas is among I-AA's most versatile performers, handling punting, punt returning and receiving. Salisbury heads up one of the East's stin-

jest secondaries.

Waknesses: While Barone threw for 1,699 yards last season, he completed a mere 46 percent of his passes. The offensive line needs retooling.

es, ine ottensive line needs retcoling.
Outlook: The Huskies, who will join the Yankee Conference in 1993, seem capable of an average season.
Schedule: At Northern Arizona, Sept. 12; at Maine,
Sept. 19; Connecticut, Sept. 26; at James Madison,
Oct. 3; Lehigh, Oct. 10; Youngstown State, Oct. 17; at
New Hampshire, Oct. 24; at Massachusetts, Oct. 31;
Rhode Island, Nov. 7; at Towson State, Nov. 14; at
Boston University, Nov. 21.
Micknens: Huskies. Nicknama: Huskies.

Site: Boston.

SAMFORD

Coach: Jerry Bowden (37-19-1, 5 years; 56-32-1

Cates: Jerry Bowden (37-13-1, 3 years, 30-32-1 overall, 8 years).
1991 recent: 12-2 (including 2-1 in I-AA playoffs).
Key players: Marcus Durgin, CB; Surkano Edwards, TB; Bryan Fisher, TE; Lee Frazier, S; Tory James, LB; Kenny Jones, DT; Vince Nobilitt, OT; Michael O'Neal, K; Ollie Sanders, LB; Ben Wiggins, QB.
Strengths: Sanders, Samford's all-time leader in

sacks, paces a snarling defense that limited I-AA champion Youngstown State to a season-low 10 points in a '91 national semifinal. Durgin was among the nation's leaders in interceptions with seven. The strong-armed Wiggins has unlimited potential.

Weskesses: Three of the top receivers in school history and three starters on the offensive line must be replaced.

Outlook: Another national semifinal appearance isn't out of the question.

Schröule: West Georgia, Sept. 5; at Auburn, Sept. 12; at Tennessee Tech, Sept. 19; at Bethune-Cookman, Sept. 26; Western Carolina, Oct. 3; Eastern Kentucky, Oct. 10; Southeast Missouri State, Oct. 17; Alabama-Birmingham, Oct. 31; at Troy (Ala.) State, Nov. 7; at UT-Martin, Nov. 14; Central Florida, Nov.

Mickname: Buildegs. Site: Birmingham, Ala.

TOWSON STATE

Cozeh: Gordy Combs (first year as head coach).

1991 record: 1-10.

Ksy players: Dan Crowley, QB; Tony Hill, WR; Kevin Howard, WR; John Loch, OT; Greg Lohr, QG; Mark Orlando, WR; Tony Vinson, TB; Kenny Weeks, WR. Streagths: Vinson, a Purdue transfer, might be the answer at tailback. If so, the offense has considerable potential. Wide receivers Howard, Orlando, Weeks and Hill form a fearsome foursome. The offensive line returns everyone, and the defensive front will be formidable, too.

Wasknesses: Crowley showed promise in 1991, but he also showed he was a true freshman by heaving 22 interceptions, including seven in one game. The punting job is up for grabs. Help is needed at the cut-

side-linebacker positions Culleck: In terms of athleticism, these Tigers are among the best of the I-AA independents. Sixteen starters return from a squad that slogged through the 1-10 nightmare that was 1991. Schedule: At Rhode Island, Sept. 12; Bucknell, Sept. 19; Hofstra, Sept. 26; Liberty, Oct. 3; at Delaware State, Oct. 10; at William & Mary, Oct. 17; James Madison, Oct. 24; Indiana (Pa.), Oct. 31; Northeast-ern, Nov. 14; at Delaware, Nov. 21. Nickname: Tigers.

Site: Towson, Md.

WESTERN KENTUCKY

Coach: Jack Harbaugh (11-21, 3 years; 36-48-3 overall, 8 years).

1991 recard: 3-8.

1991 recard: 3-8.

Key players: Chris Brooks, DE; Danny Davis, DT;
Roscoe Echols, TB; Richard Grice, LB; Meivin Johnson, CB; Eddie Thompson, QB.

Strengths: The option attack that struggled at times a year ago should improve in its second season. Top offensive threats Thompson and Echols return, along with four interior linemen. Leading stopper Grice (102 tackles) is the centerpiece of the defense

Weaknesses: Both kicking jobs are unsettled. The secondary lacks experience. Milton Biggins, perhaps the finest tight end in Hilltopper history, must be re-

fullock: Western Kentucky, which nearly dropped football last spring, has the potential to be competitive, especially if Thompson continues to mature.

Schedule: Eastern Kentucky, Sept. 5; Indiana State, Sept. 12; at Western Illinois, Sept. 19; at Southwest-ern Louisiana, Sept. 26; Central Fiorida, Oct. 24; Southern Illinois, Oct. 29; at illinois State, Nov. 7; at Eastern Illinois, Nov. 14; at Murray State, Nov. 21.

Klekname: Hilltoppers. Site: Bowling Green, Ky.

WILLIAM & MARY

Cozch: Jimmye Laycock (73-62-2, 12 years).

1991 record: 5-6.

1991 (**ECTM: 5-6.

Key players: Terry Hammons, WR; Corey Ludwig, WR;
Lance Morabito, WR; Adrian Rich, LB; Palmer Scarritt, CB; Mike Tomlin, WR; Mark Tyler, DT.

Strengths: If anyone can throw it, Ludwig (51 receptions) can catch it. Hammons, Tomlin and Morabito
also are top-flight receivers. Tyler and Scarritt are
the showcases of a tough defense.

Weeksesses: it's hard to replace quarterback Chris
Hakel, school career rushing leader Robert Green
and Alan Williams, the team's No. 2 rushers and lead-

Hakel, school career rushing leader Robert Green and Alan Williams, the team's No. 2 rusher and leading pass catcher of last season.

Outleck: The defense could be terrific. Without passing and running threats, though, yards obviously will be hard to come by on the other side of the ball.

Sebzalaic Virginia Military Institute, Sept. 12; Boston University, Sept. 19; at Harvard, Sept. 26; Brown, Oct. 3; at Pennsylvania, Oct. 10; Towson State, Oct. 17; at Virginia Oct. 31; at Harvard, Cot. 31; at Pennsylvania, Oct. 31; at Malican Oct. 31; at 17; at Virginia, Oct. 24; at James Madison, Oct. 31; at Colgate, Nov. 7; Lehigh, Nov. 14; at Richmond, Nov.

Hickosme: Tribe. Site: Williamsburg, Va.

YOUNGSTOWN STATE

Ceach: Jim Tressel (46-28, 6 years).
1991 record: 12-3 (Including 4-0 In I-AA playoffs).
Key players: Trent Boykin, WR; Marcus Evans, LB/
DE; Dave Roberts, DB; Randy Smith, DB; Tamron
Smith, TB; Chris Vecchione, DT; Jeff Wilkins, K.
Struggles: Tamron Smith was brilliant as a sophomore, scampering for 1,545 yards. Randy Smith
(eight interceptions) heads a stellar secondary.
Vecchione is a terrotripp big play lineman and

Vecchione is a terrorizing, big-play lineman, and Evans is a solid defender.

Westnesses: Ray Isaac's departure clouds the quar-terback picture. Tressel also will scramble to find able replacements at wideout, noseguard and center. able replacements at wideout, noseguard and center. Outlock: Without isaac, the Penguins don't figure to repeat as I-AA champions. But they'll be very tough. Schedule: Clarion (Pa.), Sept. 5; Delaware State, Sept. 12; at Southwest Texas State, Sept. 19; James Madison, Sept. 26; at Indiana State, Oct. 3; Illinois State, Oct. 10; at Northeastern, Oct. 17; Eastern Illinois, Oct. 31; at Ohio University, Nov. 7; at Akron, Nov. 14; Georoia Southern, Nov. 21. Nov. 14; Georgia Southern, Nov. 21.

Nickname: Penguins. 8ite: Youngstown, O.

Text by Jeff D'Alessio.

QB on the run

Only thing is, Wofford standout plans it that way

By RICK COOPER Spartanburg Herald-Journal

s a person, Wolford's Shawn Graves, the most prolific rushing quarterback in NCAA history, is a lot like he runs.

Just when you think you've corralled him at the corner as an arrogant, cocksure individual, the 5-foot-7, 155-pound speedster will juke you and show you a self-effacing side.

The sheer weight of Graves' numbers seem more the product of some singlefaceted, tunnel-visioned jock. Entering his senior season, the Terriers' standout holds six NCAA all-division records, including most career rushing yards by a quarterback (4,138), most rushing touchdowns by a freshman in a season (24, 1989) and most rushing yards by a quarterback in a game (323, vs. Lenoir-Rhyne, 1990).

Furthermore, if Graves maintains his career rushing average (133.5 yards per game) in 1992, he would wind up with a total of 5,607 yards, which would make him the NCAA's No. 3 all-time rusher behind running backs Johnny Bailey of Texas A&I (6,320) and Tony Dorsett of Pittsburgh (6,082).

In helping Wofford lead Division II in rushing last season (347.9-yard average) for the second time in three years and guiding the Terriers to their second consecutive playoff appearance, Graves rushed for 121 yards per contest and scored 20 touchdowns.

'He's the best that's ever been able to play the position," Wofford Coach Mike Ayers said. "He's not a drop-back passer, but when it comes to toting that rock, he can do it as well as anybody ever has."

The only non-senior among the eight finalists for the 1991 Harlon Hill Trophy, Graves finished third in the balloting for the award that goes to the best football player in Division II. Wide receiver Ronnie West of Pittsburg (Kan.) State won the honor.

"I definitely thought it was my year (for the trophy)," said Graves, who has established 21 school records and also moved within 10 TDs of smashing Bailey's Division II career record of 70. "We can say it is an honor to get that far . but I'd be lying if I told you I wasn't disappointed.'

In the next breath, Graves will focus on positive points.

"Everything doesn't always happen the way you want," he said. "Even when bad things have happened, I've had fun. I'm grateful for the experience."

In a career peppered with highs,



Rushing to new heights: If Shawn Graves maintains his career rushing average (133.5 yards per game) in 1992, he will wind up with a total of 5,607 yards, which would make him the NCAA's No. 3 all-time rusher.

Graves' own personal benchmark was the dramatic 15-12 victory he engineered against Division I-AA The Citadel last September. The triumph snapped The Citadel's 15-game winning streak against the Terriers.

In view of interruptions in the series, Wofford, located in Spartanburg, S.C., hadn't beaten its in-state rival (The Citadel campus is in Charleston) since 1958. Bulldogs Coach Charlie Taaffe had feverishly recruited Graves out of Marion (S.C.) High School, and Graves' pregame remark that he had declined to attend the military academy "because I didn't want to be just another guy in a monkey suit" made for a cool reception in Charleston.

Hounded by The Citadel's defense and held to 13 yards rushing on eight carries in the first half, Graves broke free for 23- and 31-yard scoring runs in the second half to pull off the upset.

"Considering all the pregame hype-unnecessary hype, I might add—that game was the single-best thing to happen to me in football," Graves said.

Taaffe was impressed.

"Shawn is one of those rare athletes who can dictate the outcome of a game, beat you by himself at any given time and from any part of the field," Taaffe

"What makes him great is his belief in himself," Taaffe added.

Last season, that supreme selfconfidence saw Graves turn a fourthand-one situation against Winston-Salem (N.C.) State into a 36-yard touchdown sprint, giving Wofford a lastminute 42-35 victory.

What Graves smilingly calls his "occasional arrogance" almost brought the Terriers back from a 28-0 deficit against West Georgia. His 234-yard, five-touchdown performance came up just short, 49-42.

"You give us another minute on that clock and we win the game," said Graves, who also acknowledged making a lot of "silly, bonehead, freshman

Mistakes? What mistakes?

"He's the best we've seen," West Georgia Coach Ron Jurney said. "Great athletic ability. A smart player with a lot of confidence."

Ayers, who lured Graves to Wofford after North Carolina State and Georgia Tech had offered him scholarships, doesn't think he'll see the likes of Graves again.

"There are a great deal of things that go into a great quarterback—the ability to read the option, quick feet, speed," Ayers explained. "But there are so many intangibles. I don't know if that combination he has will ever come

Graves believes his mental approach to the game helps set him apart.

"There are some quarterbacks who can run the ball better. But they don't have it here," said Graves, tapping his temple.

That intelligence complements a fierceness that Graves displayed in the Terriers' 64-46 victory over I-AA East Tennessee State late in the 1990 season.

Seven steel rods in his arm would attest to Graves' thirst for the goal line.

"I put my left arm down on the turf because I was thinking, 'If I keep my balance, it's another touchdown,' 'said Graves, who suffered an arm fracture on the play. When the season-ending injury occurred with 5 minutes, 57 seconds to play in the first half, Graves already had gained 149 yards on nine carries.

"You never know when that last snap is going to come," he said. "If I go down, I want to go down doing something."

For all his cockiness and tenacity, Graves remains down to earth.

"He hasn't gotten the big head," Ayers said. "He still enjoys coming out to practice. He works hard, laughs and jokes and does his thing."

His thing includes working in the offseason as a sportswriter for the local newspaper. One of his assignments was to write a column on Spartanburg High School running back Steve Davis, named by one national publication as the top offensive player in the nation in 1991.

"It was a hard thing to do because I did not want to offend him," Graves said.

In print, Graves advised Davis to make sure that the system did not use him and urged the young man to gain a quality education at his chosen school, Auburn. According to Graves, Davis should "outline his life with 'if' clauses, so if one thing doesn't pan out, he has something else to go to.'

Additionally, Graves hoped that Davis would understand the fleeting nature of being a high school or college football hero.

'What most guys don't realize about football in high school and college is that it's a fantasy," Graves warned. "High school and college are not like life. We've got it made. Make good grades, play football, date girls. The real world is different, and a lot of guys don't see that."

Even the astronomical numbers that Graves will leave behind won't mean much.

"After next year (1992), my name will come up every once in a while," he acknowledged. "But, basically, Shawn Graves will be history. Old news. Wofford will be living in the present, which is where you should be."

The future, however, seems to allow for nothing less than a national championship for Graves and the Terriers. The quarterback is no more satisfied with just being invited to the playoffs than he is with being a bridesmaid at the Harlon Hill presentation.

"To hell with just going to the playoffs," said Graves, reflecting on firstround beatings (including a 70-19 pasting) that Wofford absorbed at the hands of Mississippi College in each of the last two postseasons. "... When the final tick goes off the clock this year, it's going to have been all I planned for it to be." **■**

Predictions

0

1. PORTLAND (ORE.) STATE

Coach: Pokey Allen. 1991 record: 11-3 (including 2-1 in playoffs). Conference: 5-0/1st.

2. JACKSONVILLE STATE

Cozeh: Bill Burgess. 1991 record: 12-1 (including 3-1 in playoffs). Conference: 6-0/1st.

3. NORTHERN COLORADO

Coach: Joe Glenn: 1991 record: 8-3 (including 0-1 in playoffs). Conference: 6-2/T2nd.

4. Wofford (S.C.)

Coach: Mike Ayers 1991 record: 9-3 (including 0-1 in playoffs). Independent.

5. ASHLAND (O.)

Coach: Fred Martinelli. 1991 record: 9-2. Conference: 8-2/2nd.

6. TEXAS A&I

Couch: Ron Harms. 1991 record: 7-3. Conference: 4-2/4th.

7. PITTSBURG (KAN.) ST.

Coach: Chuck Broyles. 1991 resert: 13-1-1 (including 4-0 in playoffs). Conference: 8-0-1/1st.

8. EDINBORO (PA.)

Coach: Tom Hollman. 1991 recert: 7-4. Conference: 3-3/4th.

9. NORTH DAKOTA STATE

Coach: Rocky Hager. 1991 record: 7-3 (including 0-1 in playoffs). Conference: 7-1/1st.

10. EAST TEXAS STATE

Coach: Eddle Vowell. 1991 record: 8-4-1 (including 1-1 in playoffs). Conference: 4-1-1/2nd.

ALL-AMERICA TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. Mama, School

WR Terren Adams, Missouri Western State Rod Smith, Missouri Southern State Fontaine Walker, Northeast Missouri State

Dean Dirkes, St. Cloud (Minn.) State Brad McAbee, Wolford (S.C.)

Rob Messick, Ashland (0.) Carlton Williams, Johnson C. Smith (N.C.)

Kevin Wilson, San Francisco State John Charles, Portland (Cre.) State

Shannon Burnell, North Dakota

Zedrick Robinson, Southern Utah State

DEFENSE

Name, School

DL Antonio Edwards, Valdosta (Ga.) State

Jesse Stewart, Tuskegee (Ala.) DL

Troy Wilson, Pittsburg (Kan.) State Joe Grubb, Central Missouri State DL

LB

ĹĎ Jerry Kleidosty, Wayne (Neb.) State Doug Miller, South Dakota State ĹB

Jason Perkins, Edinboro (Pa.)

Rodney Bradley, Nebraska-Omaha

Tony Robinson, Slippery Rock (Pa.)

Harvey Summerhill, North Alabama

Eric Turner, East Texas State

SPECIALISTS

Pos. Name, School

PK Matt Stehman, Mansfield (Pa.)

John Crittenden, North Alabama

Danny Lee, Jacksonville (Ala.) State

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: John Charles. **QB. Portland State**



DEFENSE: Antonio Edwards DE, Valdosta State

DIVISION II DATA

1991 LEADERS

(Returning players caly)

Rushing: Quincy Tillmon, Emporia (Kan.) State, 171.6 yds./game (259 att., 1,544 yds., 17 TDs, 6.0 avg.). Passing officiency: John Charles, Portland (Ore.) State, 185.5 rating pts. (247 att., 147 comp., 32 TDs. 2,619 yds.).

Total offense: Andy Breault, Kutztown (Pa.), 285 yds./game (-77 yds. rushing, 2,927 yds. passing,

2,850 total yds.).

game (86 rec., 1,190 yds., 6 TDs, 13.8 avg.).
Scorlog: Quincy Tillmon, Emperia (Kan.) State, 12.7
pts./game (19 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 114 pts.). Punting: John Crittenden, North Alabama, 43.2 avg.

(49 punts, 2, 119 yds.). Punt returns: Douglas Grant, Savannah (Ga.) State,

17.4 avg. (19 att., 331 yds., 1 TD). Kickoff returns: Winston Horshaw, Shippensburg (Pa.), 35.7 avg. (15 att., 536 yds., 2 TDs). Field goals: Billy Watkins, East Texas State, 1.36 FG/ game (15/24 FG, 62.5 %).

Interceptions: Rodney Bradley, Nebraska-Omaha, 1 int./game (10 int., 25 yds., 0 TDs).

1991 PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND Pittsburg (Kan.) State 26, Butler (Ind.) 16 East Texas State 36, Grand Valley State (Mich.) 15 Portland (Cre.) State 28, Northern Colorado 24 Mankato (Minn.) State 27, North Dakota State 7 J'ville (Ala.) St. 49, Winston-Salem (N.C.) St. 24 Mississippi College 28, Wolford (S.C.) 15 Indiana (Pa.) 56, Virginia Union 7 Ship. (Pa.) 34, E. Stroudsburg (Pa.) 33 (OT)

OUARTERFINALS

Pittsburg State 38, East Texas State 28 Portland State 37, Mankato State 27 Jacksonville State 35, Mississippi College 7 Indiana 52, Shippensburg 7

Pittsburg State 53, Portland State 21 Jacksonville State 27, Indiana 20

CHAMPIONSHIP

Pittsburg State 23, Jacksonville State 6

Driven to achieve

Memory of slain father inspires Presidents' star

By SCOTT ROBERTSON Free-lance writer

hris Babirad, Washington & Jefferson's record-setting tailback, heard many cheers last season, when he ranked among the top rushers and scorers in NCAA Division III. But the contingent of Babirad's fans was minus one vocal supporter—his father.

"His father used to live to watch Chris play," said Chris' mother, Margaret. "His dad always found something to criticize in him, but it was his way of pushing Chris to do better. I know Chris was always looking to his father for help."

Chris lost his father, 49-year-old James Babirad, on December 10, 1980, a day that James, Jeff (Chris' brother) and Rich (his uncle) Babirad spent deer hunting. According to Pennsylvania state police, the Babirads had finished hunting and were returning home in a pickup truck when they pulled over for a brief rest in an area of Greene County, which is located about 50 miles south of Pittsburgh and about 20 miles south of the Washington & Jefferson campus in Washington, Pa.

They were confronted by Jay Latarte, who was the owner of the property adjacent to the road, and Robert J. Elkins Jr., Latarte's hunting partner and a neighboring property owner. Latarte and Elkins mistakenly believed the Babirads were road-hunting, which is hunting by driving along roads and looking for deer.

An argument ensued and shots were exchanged. James and Jeff Babirad were both shot in the left thigh, Elkins in the upper leg.

The bullet that struck James Babirad lacerated the main artery that supplies blood to the leg. He died within minutes. Jeff, a student at Washington & Jefferson, recovered from his wound but still is undergoing therapy.

Elkins recovered from his wound and was charged with voluntary manslaughter, aggravated assault and terroristic threats. He was sentenced last March to two- to four-year prison terms on each count, with the sentences running concurrently. The Babirads were not charged.

The loss of his father left Chris, the oldest of five children, with the responsibility of preparing his two brothers and two sisters for life without their father.

"It's been extremely hard on the whole family," Babirad said. "It's been really tough with Jeff because he was there (when James was killed) and he has to live with it every day. But those



Taugh task: The loss of his father left Washington & Jefferson's Chris Babirad, the oldest of five children, with the responsibility of preparing his two brothers and two sisters for life without their father.

pictures go through my mind every day. I felt maybe I should have been there. Maybe I could have stopped it.

"I thought after the funeral that it would really hit me, but it really still hasn't happened yet. I guess it's just something that's going to stick with me all the time."

Somehow, Babirad was able to stay focused and concentrate on football last year. As a result, he enjoyed a banner season. Even the additional pressure of taking over as the head of the Babirad household didn't affect his performance.

"I don't know how he did it," Margaret Babirad said. "It's still a very tough situation for our family. I don't know where he got (his inspiration)."

The memory of his father provided much of Babirad's football inspiration last season. He rushed for 112 yards and two touchdowns in a season-opening victory over Duquesne, and in the Presidents' third game of the season, a win over rival Waynesburg (Pa.), he rushed for a school-record 275 yards and scored three touchdowns.

"That game meant a lot," Babirad said. "My cousin plays for Waynesburg, and my family was planning a big cookout after the game. My dad waited a long time for that game. That was all he talked about."

Without his father, the game meant even more to Babirad.

"I wanted to do real well," he said. "He was the kind of guy that when you looked into the crowd, you couldn't miss him. He always let everyone know what he was thinking. I always took in what he said, but I never wanted to let him know I was listening. I didn't really realize how much it meant until he wasn't there. It was hard to keep focused all season.

"He always challenged me. My first two years, he told me I'd never rush for 1,500 yards. I set that as a goal, just to do it for him. But it's not any easier for us now. I told my mother at the funeral that I would take care of everything. I figured I was the oldest, and I would have to take charge a little.'

The Presidents are grateful that Babirad, who earned Division III All-America honors in '91, took charge on the field. He rushed for 1,713 yards and 18 touchdowns on 257 carries (all school records), caught 21 passes for 282 yards and four touchdowns and was named Offensive Player of the Year in the Presidents Athletic Conference. He led Washington & Jefferson to an 8-2 season that ended with an 18-16 loss to Lycoming (Pa.) in the first round of the Division III playoffs.

"He's always been a very goaloriented, very determined player," Presidents Coach John Luckhardt said. "He's got the whole package. He has tremendous speed, but I think his greatest attribute is his strength. People don't realize how strong he is, but it always takes more than one person to bring him down."

Luckhardt expects the same to be true this season, with the 5-foot-11, 195pound Babirad again the featured performer in the backfield. He is not concerned that Babirad will suffer a letdown after an emotion-packed season.

"I think his attitude will be just as good, and if he remains healthy, he'll have an outstanding year," Luckhardt said. "By the time he's through, he could have almost every offensive record in the books for W&J.

As it stands, Babirad holds 11 school records and is on course to break six more as a senior. Luckhardt believes that Babirad, who has rushed for 3,243 yards and 32 touchdowns in three seasons, is good enough to play at the Division I-A level, primarily because of his running style.

"I think (former Illinois coach) Mike White called it 'violent running,' " Luckhardt said. "Chris is able to pick up a great deal of yardage after people make contact with him. He combines that speed and strength into a great package. I've been coaching in college for 30 years, 20 of them at the Division I level, and he could have played at any of the places I've coached. Any coach would love to have him.'

Babirad is gearing up for a big senior year.

"I think one of the key things about last year was that I got to run the ball a lot," Babirad said. "I think I have pretty good vision and balance. I can see where the defense is, and I can kind of anticipate the things they are going to do.

"But I know a lot of players who had good junior years fall down in their senior years. I usually don't do anything in the off-season, but this year I've already been lifting and running. I want to improve a lot."

PREDICTIONS

(o)

1. ALLEGHENY (PA.)

Coach: Ken O'Keefe. 1981 reserd: 11-1 (including 1-1 in playoffs). Conference: 7-0/1st.

2. ITHAGA (N.Y.)

Coash: Jim Butterfield. 1991 record: 12-1 (Including 4-0 in playoffs). Independent.

3. BALDWIN-WALLACE

Coses: Bob Packard. 1991 resert: 10-1 (Including 0-1 in playoffs). Conference: 9-0/1st.

4. SUSQUEHANNA (PA.)

Coach: Steve Briggs. 1991 record: 11-2 (including 2-1 in playoffs). Conference: 7-1/2nd.

5. DAYTON (0.)

Couch: Mike Kelly. 1991 recent: 13-1 (Including 3-1 in playoffs). Independent.

6. CARNEGIE-MELLON

Cozet: Rich Lackner. 1991 record: 9-1. Conference: 3-0/1st.

7. ILLINOIS WESLEYAN

Cosch: Norm Eash. 1997 record: 7-1-1. Conference: 8-1-1/ T2nd.

8. Wisconsin-La Crosse

Coash: Roger Harring. 1991, record: 10-2. (Including 1-1 In playoffs). Conference: 7-1/1st.

9. AUGUSTANA (ILL.)

Coach: Bob Reade. 1991 record: 8-1. Conference: 7-1/1st.

10. St. John's (Minn.)

Cosch: John Gagliardi. 1991 record: 11-1 (including 2-1 in playoffs). Conference: 8-0/1st

all-america team OFFENSE

Pos. Marza, School

WR Chris Bisaillon, Illinois Wesleyan Chris Murphy, Georgetown (D.C.) Steve Alexander, Ohio Wesleyan Ron Bendekovic, Allegheny (Pa.) Jason Forester, U. of the South (Tenn.)

Chuck Jackson, Carnegie-Meilon (Pa.)
Andy Jowett, Massachusetts-Lowell
Todd Pivnick, Washington & Jefferson (Pa.)
John Koz, Baldwin-Wallace (0.)

Stanley Drayton, Allegheny (Pa.) Jeff Wittman, Ithaca (N.Y.)

DEFENSE

Pas. Name, School

- Rama, Seasor Sean Brewer, Millsaps (Miss.) Robert Christy, Dayton (O.) Mike Soucy, Rensselaer Tech (N.Y.) Jim Clardy, Baldwin-Wallace (O.) ÕL DĹ
- Wayne Mack, Allegheny (Pa.) Billie Mays, Ithaca (N.Y.)
- ĹĎ Andy Watkins, Susquehanna (Pa.)
- Andy Helms, Carnegie-Mellon (Pa.)
- Richard Matthews, Coe, (la.) DB
- Bart Moseman, Wheaton (III.
- Troy Nagel, Franklin & Marshall (Pa.)

SPECIALISTS

Pas. Name. School

- Greg Harrison, Union (N.Y.)
- Jeff Stolte, Chicago Fran Naselli, Wesley (Del.)

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



OFFENSE: Stanley Drayton, RB, Allegheny



DEFENSE: Sean Brewer DT. Millsaps

DIVISION III DATA

1991 LEADERS

(Returning players only)

Reshlag: Eric Grey, Hamilton (N.Y.), 179.9 yds./game (217 att., 1,439 yds., 13 TDs, 6.6 avg.). Passing efficiency: John Koz, Baldwin-Wallace (0.), 160.4 rating pts. (239 att., 153 comp., 21 TDs, 2,014

yds.). Total offense: Willie Reyna, La Verne (Calif.), 329.1

yds./game (90 yds. rushing, 2,543 yds. passing, ,633 total yds.) Receiving: Rick Sems, Grove City (Pa.), 8.1 rec./

game (73 rec., 1,023 yds., 7 TDs, 14.0 avg. game (28 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 168 pts./ game (28 TDs, 0 PATs, 0 FGs, 168 pts.) Panting: Jeff Stolte, Chicago, 42.5 avg. (54 punts,

2,295 yds.). Pust returns: Matt Tyler, Quincy (III.), 17.5 avg. (11 att., 192 yds., 0 TDs).

Kickoff returns: Tom Reason, Albion (Mich.), 32.5 avg. (13 att., 423 yds., 1 TD) Field goals: Greg Harrison, Union (N.Y.), 1.33 FG/

game (12/16 FGs, 75%). Interceptions: Howie North, Fitchburg (Mass.) State, 1 int./game (9 int., 23 yards, 0 TDs).

1991 PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND

St. John's (Minn.) 75, Coe (Iowa) 2 Allegheny (Pa.) 24, Albion (Mich.) 21 (OT) Daylon (O.) 27, Baldwin-Wallace 10 Ithaca (N.Y.) 31, Glassboro (N.J.) State 10 Union (N.Y.) 55, Mass.-Lowell 16 Union (N.Y.) 55, Mass.-Lowell 16 Lycoming (Pa.) 18, Wash. & Jeff. (Pa.) 16 Susquehanna (Pa.) 21, Dickinson (Pa.) 20 Wisconsin-La Crosse 28, Simpson (Ia.) 13

OUARTERFINALS

St. John's 29, Wisconsin-La Crosse 10 Dayton 28, Allegheny 25 (OT) Ithaca 35. Union 23 Susquehanna 31, Lycoming 24

SEMIFINALS

Dayton 19, St. John's 7 Ithaca 49, Susquehanna 13

CHAMPIONSHIP

Ithaca 34, Dayton 20

Diamond in the rough

Nebraska Wesleyan star hopes to flee gravel pit

By KEN HAMBLETON Lincoln Journal-Star

ccording to Darren Stohlmann, males in Weeping Water, Neb., can do one of three things after they've completed high school. They can: (1) go to college, (2) join the Army, or (3) work in the local gravel pit.

"If you don't get out of Weeping Water, you'll end up working in the gravel pit," Stohlmann said. "I didn't want to end up there."

More than likely, Stohlmann, a senior tight end at Nebraska Wesleyan, will end up in the National Football League. At least that's what a lot of scouts believe. After dozens of hours spent watching films and dozens more giving him tests, they are convinced that Stohlmann has what it takes to play pro ball.

Ostensibly, the scouts came to Nebraska Wesleyan last fall to watch film of running back Bobby Wright, who was signed this summer as a free agent by the Denver Broncos. But they always inquired about the 6-foot-3, 215-pound Stohlmann as well.

"Every scout who has watched film on Bobby comes to me and asks about number 9," Plainsmen Coach Jim Svoboda said... "They see this tight end streaking down the field, catching everything in sight. They see this guy catching passes when he's double-teamed and triple-teamed.

"They like him a lot. I do, too."

Scouts love that number 9, Stohlmann, as much for his all-round athleticism as his immense football ability. He earned NCAA Division III All-America track honors in 1989 in the 60-yard indoor high hurdles and the 4x100 outdoor relay. He already has run the 40-yard dash in 4.41 seconds before scouts from 24 of the 28 NFL teams.

"Nobody has times in the 40 with Darren's size like he does," Svoboda said.

One obvious question is how someone of Stohlmann's size and ability ended up at tiny Nebraska Wesleyan, an NAIA school with an enrollment of 1,655 in Lincoln. Yes, that Lincoln, also the home of the Nebraska Cornhuskers.

Although Stohlmann earned all-state honors in high school as a quarterback and defensive back, he wasn't recruited for football by any Division I-A colleges. Nebraska asked him to walk on. Kansas State offered him a partial scholarship in track.

"Finally, Kearney State (a Division II school in Nebraska) offered a track scholarship, and I took it," he said.

Although Stohlmann played football



What H? Tight end Darren Stohlmann, who is considered a pro prospect, wonders what might have happened had he gone to a major college.

and ran track at Kearney, he wasn't happy there. He transferred to Nebraska Wesleyan the next year and, after bypassing football at first, finally was persuaded back onto the gridiron.

"I was more comfortable at Wesleyan, and the only thing bugging me was the football coach, Jim Svoboda," he recalled. "Every time I'd walk by Coach Svoboda's office, he'd ask, 'Hey, when you coming out for football?' He didn't know that I had been watching practices and games all that fall with a feeling that I wanted to play football again."

In midsummer of his sophomore year, Stohlmann told Svoboda that he wanted to resurrect his football career.

"I don't think he believed me," Stohlmann said. "But I couldn't live without playing football."

Stohlmann's career as a cornerback, however, lasted about two practices.

"It didn't take a rocket scientist to see we could use Darren's speed and ability anywhere," Svoboda said. "With his size, we decided on tight end, and Hback."

Although Stohlmann thought that he'd be used primarily as a blocker, Svoboda had other plans. The coach decided to employ a more wide-open offense, a system that enabled the third-string tight end to catch 26 passes in 1990. Last season, Stohlmann caught a school-record 60 passes during Wesleyan's 8-2 regular season and another school-record 12 in the Plainsmen's 41-20 loss to Peru State in the first round of the NAIA Division II playoffs. He was named the Nebraska State College Offensive Player of the Year and a mem-

ber of the Associated Press Little All-America team.

"It is fun to have a player of his caliber playing for us because we don't get this kind of opportunity all the time," Svoboda said. "We have a lot of kids who know if they work hard, they might make the team and might make a contribution."

Stohlmann sometimes wonders what might have happened had he gone to a major college.

"My folks and my friends always said I had the ability, but I was never too sure," he said. "If I had gone to Nebraska, I might not have made it. If I had gone somewhere else, I might have been lost in the shuffle. I certainly wouldn't be as comfortable as I am at Weslevan.

"I don't have any regrets. By going to Wesleyan, I've had so many opportunities to try different things and I still have the chance to play pro football, so I guess I didn't miss anything."

Football, however, has forced Stohlmann to give up one thing—track—at least for a while. Because he's gained 15 pounds through weightlifting for football, he's too susceptible to hamstring injuries to run the hurdles anymore.

"I suppose once I get through my last season at Wesleyan and, if I get a shot at the pros, then I can try track again," he said.

In the meantime, Stohlmann is looking forward to his final year of football at the "other" college in a football-crazed town. In particular, he is hoping to lead the Plainsmen into the playoffs for the second straight year.

"You don't figure a guy from a school as small as Wesleyan is going to get much attention," Stohlmann said. "It's kind of overwhelming to me, too. I mean, I'm being compared with guys who were big-time All-Americas and guys who play for Nebraska. That's exciting, just to think about."

Only two Nebraska Wesleyan players (not including Wright trying out in Denver) have ever graduated to the NFL. Guard Shawn Bouwens is currently with the Detroit Lions. Stohlmann would like to join Bouwens in the NFL for many reasons, not the least of which is that it would keep him out of the gravel pit back home in Weeping Water.

"I just hope I don't have to try working the gravel pit," he said. "I hope I don't have to try working at my dad's farm anymore, either. You walk beans for a summer, and that will give you enough of farm work for a long time.

"Dad says I'll miss it. I don't think

COLLEGE BOWL GAMES SCHEDULE

	Game
	Blockbuster Bowi
	California Raisin Bowl
	Copper Bowl
	Federal Express Orange Bowl
	Flesta Bowl
	Florida Citrus Bowl
	Freedom Bowl
	Gator Bowl
	Hall of Fame Bowl
,	Jeep/Eagle Aloha Bowl
,	John Hancock Bowl
- 1	Las Vegas Bowl
-	Liberty Bowl
Î	Mobil Cotton Bowl
	Peach Bowl
	Poulan/Weed Eater Independence Bow
	Rose Bowl
	Thrifty Car Rental Holiday Bowl
	THILLY OUT RESIDENT MOSE AND DOWN
- 1	USF&G Sugar Bowl
	*December 29, 30 or 31. †Decem

Miami Fresno, Calif. Tucson, Ariz. Miami Tempe, Ariz. Orlando, Fla. Anaheim, Calif. Jacksonville, Fla. Dec. 30 Tampa, Fla. Honotulu El Paso, Tex. Las Vegas Memphis, Tenn. Dallas Atlanta Shreveport, La. Pasadena, Calif. San Diego **New Orleans** †December 29 or 31.

Jan. 1 Alabama 30, Colorado 25 Alabama 30, Colorado 25
Boviling Green 28, Fresno State 21
Indiana 24, Baylor 0
Mlami (Fla.) 22, Nebraska 0
Penn State 42, Tennessee 17
California 37, Clemson 13
Tulsa 28, San Diego State 17
Oklahoma 48, Virginia 14
Syraciuse 24, Ohio State 17
Genmia Tech 18, Stanford 17 TBA' **TBA**† Jan. 1 Jan. 1 Jan. 1 Dec. 30 Jan. 1 Georgia Tech 18, Stanford 17 Dec. 25 Dec. 31 UCLA 6, Illinois 3 New bowl game in 1992 Air Force 38, Mississippi State 15 Dec. 18 Dec. 31 Jan. 1 Florida State 10, Texas A&M 2 Jan. 2 East Carolina 37, North Carolina St. 34 Georgia 24, Arkansas 15 Washington 34, Michigan 14 Iowa 13, Brigham Young 13 Notre Dame 39, Florida 28 Dec: 31 Jan. 1 Dec. 30 Jan. 1

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Year-Champion

1978—Florida A&M

TSN

MAJOR COLLEGE

COACHES

AP

DIVISION 1-AA

Anner-un

Massachusetts

, 111	AGUALIEO	. 1014
Year - Team	Team	Team
1936 — Minnesota	1002	****
1937—Pittsburgh	1010	****
1937—Pittsburgh 1938—Texas Christia	n	****
1939—Texas A&M		****
1940 — Minnesota	****	epen.
1941—Minnesota	****	****
1942—Ohio State		****
1943 — Notre Dame		****
1944—Army	1041	****
1945—Army	1047	****
1946—Notre Dame		
1947—Notre Dame	****	***
1948—Michigan	****	••••
1949—Notre Dame	****	****
1950—Oklahoma	Oklahoma	***
1951—Tennessee	Tennessee	****
1952—Michigan St.	Michigan St.	****
1953—Maryland	Maryland	****
1954—Chio State	UCLA	1404
1955—Oklahoma	Cklahoma	****
1956—Oklahoma	Oklahoma	roes .
1957—Auburn	Ohio State	. ****
1958—Louislana St.	Louisiana St.	****
1959—Syracuse	Syracuse	****
1960 — Minnesota	Minnesota	****
1961—Alabama	Alabama	44.04
1962—Southern Cal	Southern Cal	****
1963—Texas	Texas	****
1984 — Alabama	Alabama	1414
1965—Alabama	Michigan St.	****
1966 — Notre Dame	Notre Dame	****
1967—Southern Cal	Southern Cal	****
1968—Ohio State 1969—Texas	Ohio State	****
1970—Nebraska	Texas	
1971—Nebraska	Texas Nebraska	****
1972—Southern Cal	Southern Cal	****
1973—Notre Dame	Alabama	****
1974—Oklahoma	Southern Cal	****
1975—Cklahoma	Oklahoma	Arizona State
1976—Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh
1977 Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
1978 — Alabama	Southern Cal	Southern Cal
1979—Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
1980—Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
1981—Clemson	Clemson	Clemson
1982—Penn State	Penn State	Penn State
1983—Miami (Fla.)	Miami (Fla.)	Miami (Fla.)
1984—BYU	BYU	Florida
100E Ollahama	Oldshama	Milahama

Oklahoma

Penn State

Miami (Fla.)

Notre Dame

Miami (Fla.)

Georgia Tech Washington

NOTE: The coaches' poil switched its affiliation from

United Press International to USA Today/CNN in

Oklahoma

Penn State

Miami (Fla.)

Notre Dame

Miami (Fla.

Georgia Tech Washington

1989-Dayton

1991-Ithaca

1990-Allegheny (Pa.)

1985-Cklahoma

1986-Penn State

1987-Miami (Fla.)

1988 — Notre Dame

1989 — Miami (Fla.)

1999—Colorado 1991—Miami (Fla:)

1991.

1979 — Eastern Kentucky 1980 — Bolse (Idaho) State 1981 — Idaho State Lehigh (Pa.) Eastern Kentucky Eastern Kentucky Delaware 1982-Eastern Kentucky 1983—Southern Illinois 1984—Montana State Western Carolina Louisiana Tech 1985—Georgia Southern 1986—Georgia Southern 1987—NE Louisiana Furman (S.C.) Arkansas State Marshall (W.Va.) Georgia Southern S.F. Austin St. (Tex.) 1988—Furman 1989—Georgia Southern 1990—Georgia Southern Nevada 1991—Youngstown (0.) St. Marshall **DIVISION II** Rezzer-up Western Kentucky Year — Champion 1973—Louisiana Tech 1974—Central Michigan 1975—Northern Michigan Delaware Western Kentucky 1976—Montana State 1977—Lehigh (Pa.) Akron (0.) Jacksonville (Ala.) St. 1978 — Eastern Illinois 1979 — Delaware Delaware Youngstown (0.) St. 1980—Cal Poly SLO Eastern Illinois 1981—SW Texas State 1982—SW Texas State **North Dakota State UC Davis** 1983 — North Dakota State 1984 — Troy (Ala.) State 1985 — North Dakota State Central (O.) State North Dakota State North Alabama 1986—North Dakota State South Dakota 1987 - Troy State Portland (Ore.) State Portland State 1988 — North Dakota State 1989 — Mississippi College **Jacksonville State** 1990 — North Dakota State Indiana (Pa.) .)

199 I Littennia (iven.) or	dackson vine outle.
DIVISIO	ON III
Year — Champion 1973 — Wittenberg (O.) 1974 — Central (Ia.) 1975 — Wittenberg 1976 — St. John's (Minn.) 1977 — Widener (Pa.) 1977 — Widener (Pa.) 1979 — Ithaca 1980 — Dayton (O.) 1981 — Widener 1982 — West Georgia 1983 — Augustana 1984 — Augustana 1985 — Augustana 1986 — Augustana 1987 — Wagner (N.Y.)	Runstr-up Juniata (Pa.) Ithaca (N.Y.) Ithaca Towson State (Md.) Wabash (Ind.)
1988—Ithaca	Central

Union

Dayton

Lycoming (Pa.)

DIVISION I-AA 1991 PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND

Nevada 22, McNeese State 16 Youngstom State 17; Villanova 16
James Madison 42, Delaware 35 (2 0T)
Samford 29, New Hampshire 13
Eastern Kentucky 14, Appalachian State 3
Middle Tennessee St. 20, Sam Houston St. 19 (0T) Northern lowa 38, Weber State 21 Marshall 20, Western Illinois 17 (OT)

OUARTERFINALS

Youngstown State 30, Nevada 28 Samford 24, James Madison 21. Eastern Kentucky 23, Middle Tennessee State 13 Marshall 41, Northern Iowa 13

Youngstown State 10, Samford 0 Marshall 14, Eastern Kentucky 7

Youngstown State 25, Marshall 17

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

ell.—attempts avg.—average C-center CB-comerback comp. -- completions 08-defensive back DE-defensive end OL-defensive lineman DT-defensive tackle F-and FB-fullback FB/gama—field goals per game FBs-field goals FL—flanker Fr.—freshman 6—guard HB-halfback H-B-H-back 18-I-back ILB—Inside linebacker int.—interceptions lat./game—interceptions per game JC—junior college Jr.—junior K—place-kicker -kick returner L—lineman LB-linebacker MO-middle guard **KB**—noseguard NT-nose tackle CL-offensive lineman OLB-outside linebacker OT-offensive tackle -punter PATs—points after touchdown PK — place-kicker
Prop 48 — falled to meet the academic requirements
of Proposition 48 last year pts.—points pts./game—points per game OB-quarterback RB—running back rec.—receptions rec./game—receptions per game 8S—sat out 1991 as a redshirt

8—safety 88—slotback 8E—split end Saph.—sophemore Sr.—senior St.-State T-tackle TB-tallback TDs-touchdowns TE—tight end WB-wingback WR-wide receiver

yds./game—yards per game

yds.—yards

'Junior. †Sophomore All others seniors

HEISMAN TROPHY

(Top player/Downtown Athletic Club of New York)

Year - Player, College, Pos.

1935 Jay Berwanger, Chicago, HB 1935 — Jay Berwanger, Chicago, HB 1936 — Larry Kelley, Yale, E 1937 — Clint Frank, Yale, HB 1938 — Davey O'Brien, TCU, QB 1939 — Nile Kinnick, Iowa, HB 1940 — Tom Harmon, Michigan, HB 1941 — Bruce Smith, Minnesota, HB

1942—Frank Sinkwich, Georgia, HB 1943—Angelo Bertelli, Notre Dame, QB -Les Horvath, Ohlo State, QB

1944—Les Horvath, Ohio State, QB
1945—Doc Blanchard, Army, FB*
1946—Glenn Davis, Army, HB
1947—John Lujack, Notre Dame, QB
1948—Doak Walker, SMU, HB*
1949—Leon Hart, Notre Dame, E
1950—Vic Janowicz, Ohio State, HB*
1951—Dick Kazmaler, Princeton, HB
1952—Billy Vessels, Oklahoma, HB
1953—John Lattner, Notre Dame, HB
1954—Alan Ameche, Wisconsin, FB
1955—Howard Cassady, Ohio State, HB
1956—Paul Hornung, Notre Dame, QB
1957—John David Crow, Tex, A&M, HB
1958—Pete Dawkins, Army, HB 1958

-Pete Dawkins, Army, HB -Billy Cannon, LSU, HB 1959 — Buly Cannon, Lay, np
 — Joe Bellino, Navy, HB
 — Ernie Davis, Syracuse, HB
 — Terry Baker, Oregon State, QB
 — Roger Staubach, Navy, QB* 1960 1961

1963 1964 -John Huarte, Notre Dame, OB -Mike Garrett, Southern Cal, HB

1966—Steve Spurrier, Florida, QB 1967—Gary Beban, UCLA, QB 1968—O.J. Simpson, Southern Cal, HB 1969—Steve Owens, Oklahoma, HB 1970—Jim Plunkett, Stanford, QB

-Pat Sullivan, Auburn, QB

1971—Pat Suliwan, Auburn, QB 1972—Johnny Rodgers, Nebraska, FL 1973—John Cappelletti, Penn State, HB 1974—Archie Griffin, Ohio State, HB 1975—Archie Griffin, Ohio State, HB 1976—Tony Dorsett, Pittsburgh, HB 1977—Earl Campbell, Texas, HB 1978—Charles White, Southern Cal, HB 1980—George Rogers, S. Caroline, HR

- George Rogers, S. Carolina, HB - Marcus Allen, Southern Cal, HB 1981 -Herschel Walker, Georgia, HB*

1983 -Mike Rozier, Nebraska, HB 1984 -Doug Flutie, Boston College, QB 1985

Bo Jackson, Auburn, HB

1965 — Vinny Testaverde, Miami, QB 1986 — Vinny Testaverde, Miami, QB 1997 — Tim Brown, Notre Dame, FL 1988 — Barry Sanders, Qkia. St., HB* 1989 — Andre Ware, Houston, QB* 1990 — Ty Detmer, Brigham Young, QB* 1991 — Desmond Howard, Mich., WR*

MAXWELL AWARD

(Top player/Maxwell Football Club of Philadelphia)

Year - Player, College, Pos.

1937—Clint Frank, Yale, HB 1938—Davey O'Brien, TCU, QB 1939-Nile Kinnick, Iowa, HB

1939—Nile Kinnick, Iowa, nb 1940—Tom Harmon, Michigan, HB 1941—Bill Dudley, Virginia, HB 1942—Paul Governali, Columbia, OB 1943—Bob Cdell, Pennsylvania, HB 1944—Glenn Davis, Army, HB 1945—Doc Blanchard, Army, HB

1946—Charley Trippi, Georgia, HB 1947—Doak Walker, SMU, HB†

1948—Chuck Bednarik, Penn, C 1949—Leon Hart, Notre Dame, E

1950 — Reds Bagnell, Pennsylvania, HB 1951 — Dick Kazmaler, Princeton, HB 1952 — John Lattner, Notre Dame, HB 1953 — John Lattner, Notre Dame, HB

-Ron Beagle, Navy, E -Howard Cassady, Ohlo State, HB -Tommy McDonald, Okla., HB 1957 — Bob Reifsnyder, Navy, T

AWARD WINNERS

-Pete Dawkins, Army, HB -Richle Lucas, Penn State, QB — Richle Lucas, Penn State, QB

— Joe Belling, Navy, HB

— Beb Ferguson, Ohlo State, FB

— Terry Baker, Oregon State, QB

— Roger Staubach, Navy, QB

— Glenn Ressler, Penn State, C

— Tommy Nobls, Texas, LB

— Jim Lynch, Notre Dame, LB

— Gary Beban, UGLA, QB

— O.J. Simpson, Southern Cal, RB

— Milke Reid, Penn State, DT

— Jim Plunkett, Stanford, QB

— Ed Marinaro, Cornell, RB

— Ed Marinaro, Cornell, RB 1970—Jim Fildnett, Stantero, up 1971—Ed Marinaro, Cornell, RB 1972—Brad Van Pelt, Michigan St., DB 1973—John Cappelletti, Pann State, RB 1974—Steve Joachim, Temple, QB 1975—Archie Griffin, Ohio State, RB 1975—Tony Dorsett, Pittsburgh, RB — Tony Dorsett, Pittsburgh, RB
— Ross Browner, Notre Dame, DE
— Chuck Fusina, Penn State, QB
— Charles White, Southern Cal, RB
— Hugh Green, Pittsburgh, DE
— Marcus Allen, Southern Cal, RB
— Herschel Walker, Georgia, RB
— Mike Rozier, Nebraska, RB
— Doug Flutle, Boston College, QB
— Vinny Testaverde, Miami, QB
— Darry Sanders, Okla, St., RB
— Barry Sanders, Okla, St., RB
— Anthony Thompson, Indiana, RB

1989—Anthony Thompson, Indiana, RB 1990—Ty Detmer, BYU, QB* 1991—Desmond Howard, Mich., WR* **OUTLAND TROPHY**

(Top Interior lineman/Football Writers Association of America)

Player, College, Pos.

— George Connor, Notre Dame, T — Joe Steffy, Army, G — Bill Fischer, Notre Dame, G — Ed Bagdon, Michigan State, G — Bob Gain, Kentucky, T — Jim Weatherall, Oklahoma, T — Dick Modzelewski, Maryland, T — J.D. Roberts, Oklahoma, G J.D. Roberts, Oklahoma, G

-Bill Brooks, Arkansas, G -Calvin Jones, Iowa, G -Jim Parker, Chio State, G -Alex Karras, Iowa, T 1955 -Zeke Smith, Auburn, G -Mike McGee, Duke, T

—Tom Brown, Minnesota, G —Merlin Olsen, Utah State, T —Bobby Bell, Minnesota, T

1967

- Bobby Bell, Minnesota, T
- Scott Appleton, Texas, T
- Steve DeLeng, Tennessee, T
- Tommy Nobis, Texas, G
- Loyd Phillips, Arkansas, T
- Ron Yary, Southern Caf, T
- Bill Stanfill, Georgia, T
- Mike Reld, Penn State, DT
- Jim Stillwagon, Ohio State, MG
- Larry Jacobson, Nebraska, DT
- Rich Glover, Nebraska, MG
- John Hicks: Ohio State, MG

1972—Rich Glover, Nebraska, MG
1973—John Hicks, Ohlo State, OT
1974—Randy White, Maryland, DE
1975—Lee Roy Selmon, Okiahoma, DT
1976—Ross Browner, Notre Dame, DE
1977—Brad Shearer, Toxas, DT
1978—Greg Roberts, Oklahoma, G
1979—Jim Ritcher, N.C. State, C
1980—Mark May, Pittsburgh, OT
1981—Dave Rimington, Nebraska, C
1982—Dave Rimington, Nebraska, C
1983—Dean Steinkuhler, Nebraska, C
1983—Dean Steinkuhler, Nebraska, G
1984—Bruce Smith, Virginia Tech, DT
1985—Mike Ruth, Boston College, NG
1986—Jason Buck, Brigham Young, DT
1987—Chad Hennings, Air Force, OT
1988—Moe Elewonibl, BYU, OB
1990—Russell Maryland, Miami, DT

Russell Maryland, Miami, DT -Steve Emiman, Wash., DT*

LOMBARDI AWARD (Top lineman/Rotary Club of Houston)

Year - Player, College, Pos. 1970—Jim Stillwagón, Ohio State, MG 1971—Walt Patulski, Notre Dame, DE



Smile of a winner: Michigan's Desmond Howard was the runaway winner of the 1991 Heisman Trophy.

1972—Rich Glover, Nebraska, MG 1973—John Hicks, Ohio State, OT 1974—Randy White, Maryland, DT 1975—Lee Roy, Selmon, Oklahoma, DT 1975—Wilson Whitley, Houston, DT 1977—Ross Bröwner, Notre Dame, DE 1978—Bruce Clark, Penn State, DT 1979—Brad Budde, Southern Cal, G 1980—Hugh Green, Pittsburgh, DE 1981—Kenneth Stms, Teiris, DT

1980 — Hugh eten, Phusburgh, De 1981 — Kenneth Sims, Texas, DT 1982 — Dave Rimington, Nebraska, C 1983 — Dean Steinkuhler, Nebraska, G 1984 — Tohy Degrate, Texas, DT 1985 — Tony Casillas, Dklahoma, NS 1986 — Cornelius Bennett, Alabama, LB 1987 — Chris Steffanc, Okto Steal, LB

— Cornelius Beiniett, Avadaria, LB — Chris Spielman; Ohio Stato, LB — Tracy, Rocker, Auburn, DT — Percy Snow, Michigan State, LB — Chris Zerich, Notro Dams, DT 1989: 1991—Steve Emtman, Wash., DT*

DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD

(Top quarterback/Davey O'Brien Educational and Charitable Trust of Fart Worth, Tex.)

Year- Player, College

1981 — Payer, Guege 1982 — Jim McMahon, Brigham Young 1982 — Todd Blackledge, Penn State 1983 — Steve Young, Brigham Young 1984 — Doug Flutla, Boston College 1985 — Chuck Long, Iowa 1986 — Vinny Testaverde, Miami (Fla.) 1987 — Don McPherson, Syracuse 1988 — Troy Alkman, UCLA 1989 — Andre Ware, Houston*

1990—Ty Detmer, Brigham Young* 1991—Ty Detmer, Brigham Young

BUTKUS AWARD

(Top linebacker/Downtown Athletic Club of Orlando, Fla.)

Year - Player, College

1985—Brian Bosworth, Oklahoma* 1986—Brian Bosworth, Oklahoma 1987—Paul McGowan, Florida State 1988—Derrick Thomas, Alabama

1969 — Percy Snow, Michigan State 1990 — Alfred Williams, Colorado

-Erick Anderson, Michigan

JIM THORPE AWARD

(Top defensive back/Jim Thorpe Athletic Club of Oklahoma City)

Year -- Player, College

1986 — Thomas Everett, Baylor 1987 — Bennie Blades, Miami (Fla.) Rickey Dixon, Okláhoma 1988 — Delon Sanders, Florida State 1989 — Mark Garrier, Southern Cal* 1990 — Darryl Lewis, Arizona

1991—Terrell Buckley, Florida State*

DOAK WALKER AWARD

(Top junior or senior running back/ GTE SMU Athletic Forum of Dallas)

Year- Player, College

1990—Grèg Lewis, Washington 1991—Trever Cobb, Rice*

1991 FINAL POLLS

TSN

Washington Miami (Fla.) Florida State Penn State

Alabama Michigan . Florida

California 9. East Carolina

10. lowa 11. Texas A&M 12. Syracuse

13. Notre Dame . Tennessee 15. Nebraska

16. Oklahoma 17. Clemson **18. UCLA**

19. Colorado 20. Tulsa

Miami (Fla.) Washington Penn State Florida State

Alahama Michigan Florida California East Carolina

10. lowa 11. Syracuse 12. Texas A&M 13. Notre Dame 14. Tennessee

15. Nebraska 16. Oklahoma 17. Georgia 18. Clemson 19. UCLA

20. Colorado

USA TODAY/CNN

1. Washington 2. Miami (Fla.) 3. Penn State 4. Florida State

5. Alabama 6. Michigan

7. California 8. Florida

9. East Carolina 10. lowa

11. Syracuse 12. Notre Dame 13. Texas A&M

14. Oklahoma 15. Tennessee

16. Nebraska 17. Clemson 18. UCLA

19. Georgia

20. Colorado

TSN's PRESEASON TOP 100 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Compiled by Allen Wallace, SuperPrep magazine

OUARTERBACKS

Thad Busby Tim Carey Jeff Hecklinski High School Pace (Fla.) Los Alamitos (Calif.) Palatine (III.) Berwick Area Senior (Pa.)

RUNNING BACKS

Kamp. Chris Abron Henry Lewis Adams James Allen Tyrone Baker Tavian Banks Chris Dickerson Robert Farmer Donnell Gordon Jay Graham Woody Green Amel Jackson Randy Kinder Dion Marion Michael Martin Mike Mitchell Jerald Moore **Charles Talley**

High School ticinaroson (1982) Central (Pontiac, Mich.) Wynnewood (Okia.) Buchholz (Fla.) Bettendori (Ia.) Glen Mills (Pa.) Gien Milis (Pa.) Belingbrook (ill.) Catholic (Baton Rouge, La.) South Oldham (Ky.) Concord Senier (N.C.) Jesuit (Ore.) Marletta (Ga.) East Lansing (Mich.) East Lansing (mint.)
Killeen (Tex.)
Warren T. White (Tex.)
Brophy Prep (Artz.)
Jack Yates (Tex.)
Northern (Pontlac, Mich.) MacArthur (Houston) Crescent City (Fla.)

Octavus Barnes Antonio Carrion Nigea Carter **7ach Clark** Jammi German Arian Manning Maurice Mebans Scott Mitchem Marquis Mosely

Damien Vallery

Clarence Williams

E RECEIVERS High School Hunt (N.C.) Dorsey (Calif.) Coconut Creek (Fla.) Peramus Catholic (N.J.) Peramus Camoue (N.J.)
Fort Myers (Fla.)
Palmetto (Miami)
Ruskin (Mo.)
Burlington Cummings (N.C.) Duxbury (Mass.) Bloomington (IIL)

Lercy Pruitt Teny Simmens Jamaal Wallace

Blue Springs (Mo.) St. Rita (III.) Willamette (Ore.)

Joe Jurevicius Jessie McCovery Dulayne Morgan Tim Watson Rhodney Williams High School Mentor Lake Catholic (0.) Theodore (Ala.) Elizabeth (N.J.) Pasco Comprehensive (Fla.) Mainland Regional (N.J.) Palatka (Fla.)

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Kama Willie Anderson Chuck Beattle Freeman Brown Carlos Callelas Eric Chandler Will Friend Inel Holliday Chris Kurpeikis Brad Lampley Kevin Long Chin McPheeters Ray Robey

kigh Seteol Vigor (Ala.) Giasgow (Del.) Miami Carol City Senior Senior (Miami) Lawrence North (Ind.) Neshoba Central (Miss.)
Daniel (S.C.)
Pittsburgh Central Catholic
Trinity (Louisville, Ky.) Summerville (S.C.) Waubonsie Valley (III.) Auburn, Rockford (III.)

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Hams Brandon Ashley Nebraska Baker Billy Beron Chris Brown Elijah Brown William Carr Vernon Crawford Eric Datson Bill Ouff Germaine Grav Sam Hemke Travis Kirschko Steve Madej

High School Carter (Tex.) Matawan Regional (N.J.) Matawan Hegional (N.J.)
Rummel (La.)
Bishop Hogan (Mo.)
University Christian (Fla.)
Carter (Tex.)
Texas City (Tex.)
Pascagoula (Miss.)
Delran (N.J.)
Fiseathower (Calif.) Eisenhower (Calif.) Lahser (Mich.) Ezperanza (Calif.) Addison Trail (III.)

Colby McCollough Zerick Rollins Bruce Thompson

Archbishop Shaw (La.) Houston Kashmere Senior O.D. Wyatt (Tex.)

LINEBACKERS

Mema J.J. Brown James Burgess Maurice Champion Cameron Cleeland Ron Janes Leonard Little Marcelius Mastella **Rob Swett** Aaron Thomas Allen Wilbon Franklin Wiseman

High School Chesterfield (S.C.) Homestead Senior (Fla.) Manual (Colo.) Sedro Wooley (Wash.) Searo Wooley (Wash.) St. Mary's Memorial (0.) South Shelby (Mo.) Asheville (N.C.) Gadsen (Ala.) Central Bucks West (Pa.) Elmhurst Immac. Conc. (III.) J.F. Kimball (Tex.) Valdosta (Ga.)

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Neme Mandrell Dean Dan Hackenbracht Tomell Hurd Greg Melvin Evan O'Ferral Andre Pam Clarence Thomoson **Bryant Westbrook** Jamel Williams

High School
Millwood (Okla.) Millwood (UKIA.)
Massillon (O.)
J.F. Kimbali (Tex.)
Bayside (Va.)
Bellport (N.Y.)
Mottingham (N.Y.)
Martin Luther King (Mich.) El Camino (Calif.) Merrillytile (Ind.)

Mema Stals Boseman Cy Butter Byron Capers Marc Edwards Setnu Jenkins Zack McCall Carl McCullough High School Morningside (Calif.) Weston (Mass.) Wheeler Marietta (Ga.) Merwood (0.) Mehiville (Mo.) Fitchburg (Mass.) Cretin-Derham Hall (Minn.)

KICKERS/PUNTERS

Scott Bentley

High School Overland (Colo.)

INDEX OF TEAMS

	=
Akron 9 Alabama 10 Alabama State 16	6
Alahama 10	۰
Alabama Clata	5
Alauania Siaus	3
Alcom State	3.
Annalachian State 15	9
Adress 10	š
A KAN MINISTER STATE OF THE STA	à
Arizona State10	1
Arkansas 11	1
Arkanese State 12	Ä
Alcom State 16 Appalachian State 15 Arizona 100 Arizona State 100 Arixanasas 11 Arkansas State 13	:
ALIDY	•
Auburn	0
Auetic Poor State 15	Ě
Dan Of the	ž
Auburn 11 Austin Peay State 15 Ball State 9	4
Baylor	4
Baylor 11 Bethune-Cookman 15 Boise State 14	Ž
Dalas Chais	¥
DUISE State 14	_
Boston College6	9
Routon University 18	5
Boston Callege 6 Boston University 16 Bowling Green State 9	×
Downing green Statea	Ž
Brigham Young	9
Brown 15	1
Outstant 45	÷
Bucknell 15 California 10 Cal State Fullerton 9	Ļ
California 10	1
Cal State Fullerton 9	ń
Central Florida16	ž
Cellual Lining	•
Content Blichiaan D	
. VCIIVAI MIVIIWAII	3
Central Michigan	3
Cincinnati	1
Cincinnati	9
Cincinnati 13 The Citadel 15 Clemson 6	93
Cincinnati 13 The Citadel 15 Clemson 6	93
Cincinnati 13 The Citadel 15 Clemson 6	93
Cincinnati 13 The Citadel 15 Clemson 6	93
Cincimat 13 The Citade 15 Clemson	1 9 3 7 4
Cincimat 13 The Citade 15 Clemson	1 9 3 7 4
Cincimat 13 The Citade 15 Clemson	1 9 3 7 4
Cincimat 13 The Citade 15 Clemson	1 9 3 7 4
Cincimat 13 The Citadel 15 Clemson	193744151
Cincimat	1937441511
13 13 15 15 16 16 16 16 16 16	19374415115
13 13 15 15 16 16 16 16 16 16	19374415115
13 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	193744151153
Cincimat 13 13 15 15 16 16 16 16 16 16	1937441511536
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	19374415115360
13	1937441511536995579
13	1937441511536995579
13	1937441511536995579
13 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18	193744151153699557953

Fordham Fresno State 159 106 167 Georgia..... Georgia Southern Georgia Tech Grambling State .63 163 151 151 123 157 Harvard. Hawaii Hely Cross 116 153 147 147 Houston Howard ldaho Idaho State .83 149 .83 lilinois indiana.. Indiana State 149 .. 81 ...78 163 lowa lowa State Jackson State.. James Madison Kansas State ... 76 77 .96 108 157 Kentuck Kentucky. Lafayette Lehigh Liberty. Louisiana State Louisiana Tech. 157 110 129 130 165 159 . 65 Louisville Maine Marshall Maryland Massachusetts 165 161 McNeese State. Memphis State. 130 ..68 ..93 Miami (Fla.)'.. Miami of Chlo. Michigan Michigan State Middle Tennessee State 80 82 Minnesota Mississippi Mississippi State Mississippi Valley State

Montana State.. Morehead State Morgan State. Murray State. 153 155 Navy. Nebraska Nevada.. New Hampshire New Mexico 165 124 New Mexico State Nicholis State North Carolina ..89 161 ..64 153 North Carolina A&T... North Carolina State Northeastern .. Northeast Louisiana 161 147 131 149 Northern Arizona... Northern Illinois.... Northern Iowa..... North Texas... Northwestern. 161 Northwestern State Notre Dame. Ohio State .. Ohio University Oklahoma Oklahoma State Oregon..... Oregon State Pacific Penn State Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh..... Prairie View A&M .. 163 151 Princeton ... Purdue Rhode Island Rice Richmond Rutgers .. Samford . Samford
Sam Houston State
San Diego State
San Jose State
San Jose State
South Carolina
South Carolina State
Southeast Missouri State

Southern California.

Southern Illinois Southern Methodist 149 117 Southern Mississippi...... Southwestern Louisiana ... Southwest Missouri State. 133 132 149 161 . 99 Southwest Texas State. Stanford.....Stephen F. Austin State 161 Syracuse. 68 72 Temple .. Tennessee 107 UT-Chattanooga 159 UT-Martin 155 155 Tennessee State. 155 113 113 Tennessee Tech Texas Texas A&M Texas Christian Texas-El Paso.. 163 115 .94 167 Texas Southern . Texas Tech Totedo Towson State. Tulane... Tulsa. UCLA. 128 . 99 89 Iltah 121 **Utah State** ..88 107 Vanderbilt Villanova. 165 66 ..98 102 147 159 149 Western Kentucky. Western Michigan. West Virginia..... William & Mary.... ..70 167 Wyoming. Yale..... 123 151 Youngstown State.